

FROM AMA FRIENDS TO AFGHANISTAN - A young Afghan boy walks beside a U. S. Marine in the command of Brigadier General Larry Nicholson, '75. The little boy has a back pack purchased with funds donated by AMA alumni and friends. *"These acts of kindness in Afghanistan help us win the hearts of the people and save Marine lives,"* Larry says. Story and more photos inside.

**Deadline for Sports
Hall of Fame**

***A bold plan to see us
through these tough
economic times***

**New scholarship
for at risk boys**

Augusta Military Academy Alumni Association, Inc.

October 2009



Dear AMA brothers, AMA faculty and friends,

We have not and we will not allow the present economic conditions to slow us down in our efforts to continue the progress and build upon the foundation of our Alumni Association which was founded 40 years ago this coming spring.

The most valuable asset in any organization is its people. Over the last 40 years, our organization has been blessed with many wonderful hardworking volunteers. These folks have unselfishly given of their time, talent, and in many instances, their treasure, which has allowed your Alumni Association to succeed and persevere. Recently our ranks have been thinned with the retirement of **Sergeant Don Studer** who did an incredible job helping with our Museum and acting as our alumni military activities advisor. It will be hard to fill Don's shoes. However, we still have many, many alumni privileged enough to live near Fort Defiance who can help. If you do live in the area, but still work, we ask that you come forward and volunteer two or three hours a month. For those that are now retired, consider volunteering one or two days a week. We really need your help.

As you know our former Executive Director, **Tina Shafer** has moved to the Tampa area to join her husband Danny who was able to secure employment there. We were happy for the Shafers but sad that we lost Tina, who I am sure you will agree was very enthusiastic and did a great job for your Association and Museum.

The AMA Foundation has hired **Crysta Stephenson** who has now taken over Tina's duties. Crysta has been the Executive Director of the Highland County, VA, Historical Society and is familiar with the needs of a small museum such as ours. Crysta is now full time at the museum, Monday through Friday.

Plans are coming together for Reunion 2010 on 22-23-24-25 April. Our theme will be the 40th Anniversary of the Alumni Association and we will be honoring all past presidents. Incorporated in our regular program will be some dynamic and entertaining speakers who will address topics such as the importance of the AMA Legacy Scholarships and how an AMA faculty member influenced a young cadet's future. Furthermore, the AMA Classes of 1950, 1960 and 1970 are planning for their 60th, 50th and 40th class reunions. Perhaps, however, the most important aspect of Reunion 2010 will be the one opportunity for you to meet up with an old friend or classmate that you have not seen since your departure from AMA.

We are most grateful to **Norvell West, '83**, and his company, Woodard, West and Parks which recently agreed to fund a new \$7,000 Roller Scholarship which will be given annually to "at risk" young men. More details later.

Ruth and Howard Rosenthal, '68, attended the October Board of Directors meeting and gifted the AMA Alumni Foundation with a very generous \$10,000 check which is the equivalent of one month's budgeted operating expenses for the Museum, Scholarships and *Bayonet* accrual. Furthermore, he has pledged an additional \$20 contribution for every alumnus or AMA friend who contributes a minimum of \$500 before 3 October 2010. For those of you who know Howard as I do, this came as a complete and very unexpected surprise. In fact, we have a blown up copy of his check for display at the museum for all to see! Now fellow brothers and friends, if Howard can dig down in his pocket and be so incredibly generous, what is holding you back from digging into yours and contributing \$100, \$500, \$1,000, \$5,000 or even matching Howard and Ruth's \$10K donation to keep our AMA Legacy alive?

I look forward to seeing you at Reunion 2010 this coming April.

Jorge P. Rovirosa '70
Miami, Florida

President, AMA Alumni Association, Inc.



Volume 2009, Number 3

Newsletter of the AMA Alumni Foundation, Inc.
P.O. Box 100, Fort Defiance, VA 24437-0101

Editor: Bob Bradford, '50

Circulation Manager: Crysta Stephenson

The *Bayonet* is distributed to alumni and friends of the Augusta Military Academy for a contribution of \$25 USD per year. Notice of changes of address should be sent to AMA Alumni House, P.O. Box 100, Fort Defiance, VA 24437-0100. Please provide your nine-digit ZIP code! The *Bayonet* welcomes information and articles about AMA alumni. Share the news of promotions, awards, retirement, births, marriages, deaths, etc. Please print or type your submission.

Clear and correctly exposed photos are always welcome. Digital photos should be at least 300 dpi, preferably in TIFF format.

Annual subscriptions to a foreign address are also \$25 USD per year.

Mail or e-mail information to:
Bob Bradford, 1687 Schillers Court
Folsom, California 95630
Phone 925/395-1937
e-mail: AMABayonet@aol.com

1938
(NONE)

Bill Welte celebrated his 89th birthday in mid-July. Congratulations, Bill! He lives in Gales Ferry, CT.

1947
(MIKE WELCH)

Bobby Rhea and Nancy have a new e-mail address. Bobby was formerly the counsel to the AMA Alumni Association and to the AMA Alumni Foundation.

[ndrhea@verizon.net]

Bill Lane lives in Greenbelt, MD. He retired as Chief of Police in Greenbelt after serving 11 years as a detective in Tacoma Park, MD.

1948
(ERNIE CLICK)

Don "Ducky" Carmichael has been inducted into the Sports Hall of Fame at the University of Delaware for his outstanding accomplishments in baseball and football at the school. He was offered pro football tryouts by both the Philadelphia Eagles and the New York Giants. At AMA, he played on the AMA Orchid Bowl Championship football team, played basketball and baseball and was on the Honor Roll. Ducky lives in Bethany Beach, DE.

Ernest Click and Marge have completed a three month RV tour of the Western United States. After a few false starts, their RV adventure proved to be a marvelous experience. The Clicks live in Flagler Beach, FL. [erniec235@aol.com]

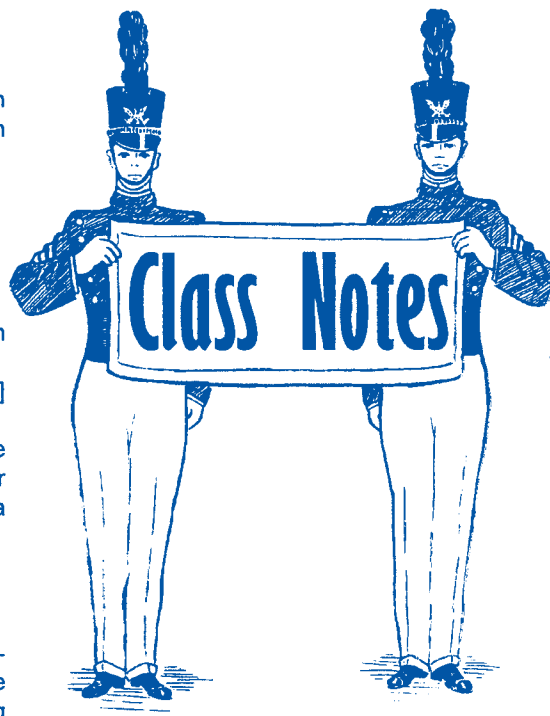
Jerry Izenberg now lives in Nevada just outside Las Vegas. His wife's doctor was speaking about her graduate education at the University of Mississippi and Columbia University. Jerry asked her where she went to undergraduate school and she said, "Oh, a little college you never heard of called Mary Baldwin." Jerry says when he told her he had gone to AMA, "she really flipped."

[jizenberg@starledger.com]

1949
(FRANK SPENCER &
CLYDE RFAMSEY)

Ed Chauncey's sweet wife, Bobbie, lost her mother in June. Know that we are thinking of you and your family, Bobbie. She and Ed have led the effort to examine the contents of many huge boxes of school records. They live in Culpeper.

[sumhill@starpower.net]



George St. Clair says that we left **John Evans**, '49, off the list of AMA grads who went on to VMI. Thanks, George and sorry, John. [cytex49@hotmail.com]

Dr. Meb Turner, former President of the University of Baltimore, underwent emergency surgery for a thoracic aneurysm at the University of Maryland Medical Center on 10 September. We all hope you're doing well, Meb.

Frank Spencer has a new e-mail address. He and **Ida** live in Waynesboro. [frankspencer53@gmail.com]

1953
(LEW MUNDIN)

Ted Basque spent twelve years with Aerojet General, then finished his career at Explosive Technologies in 1999 as quality assurance manager. He lives in Wilsonville, OR.

[TedBasque@yahoo.com]

Ozzie Ferro gives us the wonderful news that **Grecia** has responded well to her cancer treatments. In a C-Scan in late September, she was free of any cancer. At the same time, their grandson has been certified as an Apple/McIntosh technician. And some other good news from Ozzie: he has sent multiple boxes of much needed items to **General Nicholson** for his Marines in Afghanistan. (Details will be found on page 17)

[ferroozzie@bellsouth.net]

1954
(KEN HOKE)

Frank Suter has had some genuine sorrow in his life these past few years. He lost a daughter to cancer in 2003 and now another daughter who has had breast cancer now has leukemia. Please know that you and your family are in our prayers, Frankie. Frank hopes to make it back from Conyers, GA for Reunion 2010 where he is assured of a warm greeting. He recalls being in Fort Defiance in the summers where **Colonel Louisell** taught a special class to help him graduate.

1955
(T. C. LEA)

Don Quigg has penned a new book intended to identify and critique our "legislative failures without pointing specific fingers." Its title: *Runaway Debt, Flat Taxes and Voter Apathy*. Read the story on page 45. Don lives in Anderson, SC.

[dquigg@bellsouth.net]

1956
(SERGIO FERNANDEZ)

Nicholas Crump was in the Band at AMA and later served in the U. S. Navy. He now lives in Queenstown, MD.

1958
(DUKE FANCHER)

David Walker lives in Vineland, NJ and hopes to get back for Reunion 2010.

1959
(LLOYD EASTLACK &
DAVE CONRAD)

Buzzy Coulon went to Missouri State on an NROTC Scholarship and became a Naval aviator flying the EC121 Super-constellation in Vietnam. Says **Bill McVey**, '60, "Buzz had to fly low and slow and got more bullet holes in that big plane than all of my fighter pilot friends put together." Now retired in Hingham, MA, Buzz is a gardener with more than an acre of fruit trees.

1960
(LUKE SNYDER &
FRANK WILLIAMSON)

Jim Holtman has moved to a new home in New Castle in Craig County, VA and he has a new e-mail address.

[jaime4105@yahoo.com]

1961
(JACK STEELE)

C. G. Hobeck lives in Idaho in a town called Meridian. At AMA, he was in D

Company and was a member of the Cotillion Club.

**1962
(BOB GEBEAUX &
ROB RIDGEWAY)**

Bob Ridgeway spent over 40 years in the fire service including the last twenty as Fire Chief in Gastonia, NC. When retirement got too tame for him, Bob accepted a position with FEMA as a training specialist at the Emergency Management Institute in Emmitsburg, MD. "Recently I had correspondence with **General Larry Nicholson, '75**, who commands a Marine unit in Afghanistan including my old Nam outfit, 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marines." Bob has two grown boys and his wife lives in Gastonia where Bob comes home on weekends.
[Robert.Ridgeway@dhs.gov]

Mickey Caviness says the greatest AMA memory he has "is playing football with the most talented group of guys I have ever seen assembled as a team. I often have wished that I could have taken them all as a group to college and build there another AMA dynasty." Mickey lives in Harrisonburg.

**1963
(MIKE BASTO)**

Richard Tator has gotten back on the mailing list courtesy of his classmate, Joe Kristek. Tator lives in Camden, DE after retiring from a position with the State of Delaware.
[rtator@verizon.net]

Joe Kristek retired from IBM after 27 years, then worked another 13 years for Lockheed-Martin. He lives on an 1100 acre lake in North Carolina where he keeps a pontoon boat. Joe is the North Carolina President of Vietnam Vets and works with veterans on a volunteer basis helping them process disability claims. Two of his sons have seen recent combat, one as a Seabee and one as a Marine.
[navy1dad@aol.com]

**1964
(PHIL MATSON &
DAVE HOLSINGER)**

Marshall Haley has a new snail mail address: 2308 W. Durston Road, Bozeman, MT 59718. He really enjoyed the last



THE CLASS OF 1967 - Well, part of it. This photo was taken at the 2009 reunion and shows Gordon Metz, Rick Smail, Mac McGinnis and Mike Nolan from '67. Tom Forrer and Brian Miller were also at the reunion but couldn't be found when this photo was taken.

Bayonet. Thanks! [mhaley@bresnan.net]

**1966
(NONE)**

Tom Haley has a new e-mail address, below. Tom came to AMA from Haddonfield, NJ and was the Sergeant Major his senior year. He lives in Brownstown Township, MI. [TomHaley1221@yahoo.com]

**1967
(MAC McINNIS)**

Brock Wagner and Vicki recently have updated their business website. Since 1988, Twigs of Naples (FL) has offered flowers, baskets, furniture, candles, giftware and such. There are more than 1500 items now on the site with more being added all the time. Visit the site at: www.twigsofnaples.com.
[brock.wagner@comcast.net]

John Botcheller celebrated his birthday in August in Busan, Korea (formerly Pusan before Korea changed the pronunciation). He and Nancy enjoyed a high speed train ride, took in a Lotte Giants baseball game, shared a bottle of Dom Perignon and then enjoyed Haeundae Beach (which set a Guinness record by pitching 8,000 beach umbrellas in 2008). John manages Citi-corps business in South Korea.
[john.j.botcheller@citi.com]

Ed Bright has new mailing and e-mail addresses. His mailing address is Box 65,

Mint Springs, VA 24463.
[sunshine111152@yahoo.com]

Rick Smail continues flying with Air India for the time being while saying that he plans to resign by mid-March of 2010. Rick lives in Park City, UT.
[ricksmail@earthlink.net]

**1968
(GORDON METZ)**

Rex Ickes recently checked in with us. He lives in Sanders, AZ.

Jim Rochelle had surgery for kidney stones in August. He is living in Columbia, SC.

Howard "Chip" Rosenthal lost his dear mother in July. We are very sorry to hear the news, Howard. He lives in Silver Spring, MD. See page 11 for a story of extraordinary dedication by Howard and Ruth.
[harrynav@erols.com]

**1969
(NICKY SYROPOULOS)**

Stuart Gold was able to attend AMA for just two years and hopes to get back to Fort Defiance soon. "My son was trying on my AMA jacket and I went on line where I found that wonderful AMA web site. Would like to get back to see the school soon." Great, Stuart. Be sure to bring your son along with you! The Golds live in Columbus, OH.
[sgold3657@gmail.com]

**1970
(HARRY CAMPBELL)**

Mark Hillsman lives on St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands. He was in Band Company, on *The Bayonet* staff and on the Honor Roll and Privelege List.

Jorge Rovirosa and Kiki welcomed their first granddaughter, born at the South Miami Hospital on 8 July. Little Mia Barreneche weighed in at eight pounds eight ounces. Congratulations to the parents and the grandparents!
[jorovi@farovi.com]

Larry Thiel is how we knew him, but he has dropped his last name which belonged to his step-father. He had dropped Theil and has his original name - Larry Milano. He now lives in Ronks, PA.

1971

(GARRY GRANGER)

Joe Berman wrote from Norfolk that he is enthusiastic about the plan to have future *Bayonets* available on line and to have a subscription fee to cover the printing and mailing costs for the hard copies. Thanks for your support, Joe, and thanks for your contribution as well.

[joeberman@aol.com]

Ron "Scootch" Melcher continues to improve at home in Cleveland after having suffered a stroke in September of 2008. He turned 58 in August and says that he definitely plans to be at the 2010 reunion. Mike Kidd, '72, Scootch and their wives intend to drive down from Cleveland to Fort Defiance.

[rmelcher@sbcglobal.net]

Scott Rosenstein reports that his youngest daughter got married this past August. He now has four grandchildren, two of each, ranging from ten months to eight years. For the past 37 years, he has been a factory rep for a furniture company. Scott likes to clay shoot whenever he can but still has knee problems from his 2001 Roller Riders trek. He lives in Pikesville, MD.

[scottrsym@comcast.net]

John Brill found AMA again on Facebook saying that he had not been back to AMA since he left school. He lives in Paraiba, Brazil where he is hoping to import electronic items made in China for resale. After a career in systems admin in Fredericksburg, VA, he moved to Brazil in 2004. He married a Brazilian girl, "but it didn't work out." Now, he has a new squeeze – Nalva – and is enjoying his life. [jbrill3000@hotmail.com]

1972

(LEWIE KENNETT)

Jim Hash has pending surgery to restore adequate blood flow to his right leg. We are hoping that all will be well.



Norvell West and Erin welcomed Isabel Grace into their lives on 12 August. (Garry Granger thinks that the little seven pound eight ounce baby is now the youngest child of any AMA alumnus) After some scary times involving surgery and a stay at the UVa Hospital in Charlottesville, the little baby is now back home and, says Norvell, "growing like a weed." Norvell, Erin, Elizabeth and Isabel live in Roanoke.



Mr. and Mrs. James Creek, '79, came from Annapolis to visit the museum.

Tom Barnes lives in Vegas and is building his retirement home at Marysville, Utah. The house will have a metal roof and log siding and should be weather proofed just in time for winter. Tom is a licensed surveyor in Nevada, Arizona, Utah, California, Colorado and New Mexico and is a surveying instructor at UNLV.

[tom@surveyssouthwest.com]

1973

(JIM ATCHISON)

Bruce Crum's mother passed away on 16 August. Please know that we are thinking about you, Bruce. He lives in Gaithersburg, MD.

[bacrum@verizon.net]

Chris Bowman is living in Bluefield, WV with his wife, Roxanna. He is in the coal mining industry.

[chrisandrbowman@aol.com]

1978

(HENRY HARRIS)

Carter Miller, we are sad to report, had a heart attack in June and had triple bypass surgery. Jeff Wenzel reminds us that Miller used to own Colonel Hoover's last motorcycle. We all pray that Carter will have a rapid and complete recovery.

1980

(KEITH TRAYLOR)

Scott Johnson of San Jose, CA completed the last of his chemo treatments in July but his Mom, Barbara Zoeckler of Virginia Beach, says that the latest tests show a large tumor pressing on his superior vena cava. Without treatment, the doctors give him only a couple of months. Even with more radiation and chemo, he might have only twice as long. His Mom says that Scott was able to do the two most important things on his "Bucket List:" he attended the 2009 reunion and took a long anticipated cruise to Alaska. She says she never dreamed "when I enrolled him at AMA how long that investment would continue to enrich his life. His AMA friends are still supporting him with cards, letters and phone calls."

[bzoeckler@cox.net]

1984

(CHRIS MEEK)

Scott Cole celebrated his 37th birthday in August. Scott is in the Navy and lives in Monterey, CA. The late Chief Chester Cole, long time AMA Museum volunteer, was Cole's father.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

This may be your last Bayonet!

This may be the last *Bayonet* you will receive in the mail unless you contribute \$25 to cover the cost of printing and mailing for a year (or \$40 for two years)

As we have reported to you in the last three issues, as the world economy has faltered, the contributions and grants that we depend on to fund our programs have dried up. We have cut where we can at the Museum, with *The Bayonet*, with our scholarship programs and every other place where there can be cost reductions without completely undermining our mission.

We have hoped in vain that we would not have to institute a subscription fee but now it is no longer possible to publish and mail *The Bayonet* without income to offset its costs.

As you may know, you can now view issues of *The Bayonet* on-line beginning with the Summer 2006 issue. Go to our web site at: www.AMAAlumni.org, click on *Bayonet*, then select the issue you want to see. It will come up a page at a time and you can print the pages if you like. Some of you may decide to take this option.

Please return to us the form from the back page at your first convenience. We hope that you understand why it is necessary for us to take this undesirable action. If you would like, send in \$40 for a two year subscription!

Good and bad news at the Foundation trustee and Association boards

Despite a spate of unfavorable economic news, the AMA Foundation trustees and the Alumni Association directors found some sunshine peeking through the dark financial clouds at their early October meetings on the AMA Post.

Contributions continue to lag spending to a considerable degree and the Foundation's principal had to be tapped to pay the bills due in September. There also was bad news from Richmond: the State will not be able to fund any grants in the foreseeable future.

At the same time, one alumnus made a \$10,000 contribution at the meetings, enough to cover one month of our annual \$120,000 budget. Another alumnus contributed up to \$10,000 to fund a new AMA scholarship for "at risk" kids. And the board revitalized the President's Council asking that at least 100 AMA alumni and friends commit to donating \$1,000 a year for the next five years until "things get back to normal."

Treasurer Bud Oakey, '70, reported a \$7,000 shortfall in the Foundation account, much of this amount is in a set aside for the three \$2,000 AMA Legacy Scholarships to be awarded at Reunion 2010. **Ex officio Trustee Chuck Williams** of Raymond James gave a detailed overview of the U.S. economy and how AMA's Foundation funds are situated to best absorb any future negative market moves.

Oakey said that while State government grants may not be available to museums like ours at this time, there are grants from Foundations and possible Federal grants that AMA will make application for. *"We need to continue the progress we have made toward accreditation which is the best weapon we have in making applications for private and government grants,"* Oakey said, adding that, *"we have a short term cash problem and we have to work our way through that."*

Howard Rosenthal, '68, came to the meeting with a nice surprise: a \$10,000 check for the AMA Foundation which will cover one month of operations. Howard challenged other alumni to step up: *"If I can scrape up the funds to contribute to this worthwhile cause, then other alumni can do the same and I challenge them to follow my lead."*

Norvell West, '83, came with a \$7,000 check to underwrite a "kids at risk" scholarship to be administered by the Foundation. He hopes to make the total gift \$10,000 in time for the scholarship to be awarded at Reunion 2010.

The Association Board and the Foundation Trustees endorsed the revitalization of the President's Council asking at least 100 AMA friends and alumni to contribute at least \$1,000 per year until "things get back to normal." Those who participate will have specially engraved paver bricks installed near the AMA Alumni House/Museum and will be honored at the reunion. Those who will commit to at least \$1,000 a year for five years will become members of the Chairman's Roundtable with additional benefits.

In other actions at the meetings:

■ **Alumni Association President Jorge Rovirosa, '70**, thanked former president **Garry Granger, '71**, for his eight years

of service as the president of the association.

■ **Rovirosa** introduced **Crysta Stephenson** as the new museum administrator replacing **Tina Shafer**. Tina's husband's former company relocated him to Florida and Tina and the family have followed him there.

■ **Clyde Ramsey, '49**, recommended that we seek an intern from Mary Baldwin College who is a senior involved with the college's ROTC program. Clyde set aside \$1,500 to fund the intern program for five years.

■ **Carlos Lacayo, '67**, is running ads in newspapers in Costa Rica, Honduras, Nicaragua and Guatemala looking for "lost" alumni who live in those countries.

■ **Steve Trent, '70**, is researching the criteria for the AMA Junior ROTC Medal and will make a report at the January meetings.

■ **Ed Chauncey, '49**, was not able to attend the meeting because of health issues but sent the message that every effort should be made to finish going through the boxes of old school records. Chairman Williamson and Museum Administrator Stephenson plan a trip to VMI to meet with their preservationists.

■ President Rovirosa announced that there will shortly be an on line newsletter aimed at Augusta County area leaders with the first issue to be on line in November. Further discussions about blogs, Facebook and Twitter are anticipated as alternate ways of communication with alumni are sought.

■ **Finance Committee Chairman Dr. Richard Whitaker, '72**, reported that the internal audit showed that approved procedures are in place and are working.

■ A 2010 AMA Cruise to Alaska is being planned by **Brenda and Goodloe Saunders, '57**. Details will be forthcoming.

■ Rovirosa reported that he has written to 63 members of the Class of 1970 urging them to come back for their 40th anniversary at Reunion 2010. He reported similar efforts by the Class Agents of 1950 and 1960.

■ **Luke Snyder, '60**, proposed an amendment to the AMA Legacy Scholarship rules that would do away with the requirement that scholarship recipients be no older than 25. His proposal was referred to the Scholarship Committee.

■ The next meetings of the AMA Foundation Trustees and the AMA Alumni Association Directors will be on 22-23 January at the U. S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD.



If you have read the story on this page, you may be asking, "What can I do?" The one thing we all can likely do is to become a member of The President's Council. But you say, "\$1,000? I can't write a check for \$1,000." OK. Maybe you can write a check for \$83 each month? That will get you to \$1,000 by the time the year ends. \$1,000 in a year comes out to \$19.23 a week. Surely, you can handle that, right? Or \$2.74 a day. How much do you spend for coffee, beer or treats in a day? Can't you spare \$2.74 a day? We really do need it!

New dates announced

Reunion 2010 to honor 40th anniversary of the Alumni Association

With high hopes and much excitement, the AMA Alumni Association came into being in June of 1970 during an ~~Ad Astra~~ reunion on the AMA campus. 2010 will mark the 40th anniversary of the founding and the reunion next year will key on that event.

Because of a conflict with a church event on campus, the new dates for the reunion are 22-25 April. Registration forms will be in the mail after New Year's Day.

As in the past several years, **Rod Willey, '51**, will host a reception for early arrivals on Thursday evening 22 April at the Staunton Country Club.

On Friday, two options will be available: the 2010 AMA Golf Open at the Ingleside Country Club or a Staunton tour including a luncheon. The Friday trip would visit the birthplace and Presidential Museum of America's 28th President Woodrow Wilson who led our nation during World War One. There also will be a trolley tour of the many historical sites in and around the city plus lunch.

The annual awards banquet will be on Friday evening at the Holiday Inn Golf and Conference Center in Staunton, the reunion headquarters hotel. At that dinner, AMA Legacy Scholarships will be announced and AMA Alumni Medals awarded.

On Saturday morning, the annual membership meeting will be held at the hotel followed by Founder's Day ceremonies in the Augusta Stone Church Cemetery. A dedication for departed Roller Society members will take place in front of the AMA Museum just prior to the luncheon in the AMA Gymnasium.

Newly elected members of the AMA Sports Hall of Fame will be inducted during the lunch which will feature a speech by **Manuel Balbis, '53**, about his memories of AMA. The 40th anniversary will be marked at the luncheon.

Cadets from Fishburne Military School will have a dress parade on our Parade Grounds after the Saturday lunch followed by a pass in review honoring AMA alumni. Saturday evening will feature the annual Silent Auction and the Casino Night Extravaganza, a popular new offering at recent reunions.

Luke Snyder, '60, is Chairman of the 2010 reunion.

The original Board of Directors of the
AMA Alumni Association, Inc.
chosen on 6 June 1970

*Parker Ward, '54, Huntington, WV ***
Tomme Gamewell, '54, Salisbury, NC
David Conrad, '59, Annapolis, MD
*Gray Hume, '57, Alexandria, VA **
*William McClung, '31, Charlottesville, VA **
*Dr. John Young, '40, Lynchburg, VA **
*"Mickey" Gordon, '39, Washington, DC **
Frank Suter, '54, Roanoke, VA
Duke Fancher, '58, Woodbridge, VA
T. C. Lea, Jr., '69, Culpeper, VA
*Ralph McGraw, '43, Camp Hill, PA **
*Colonel Sam Wales, '35, Fort Defiance, VA **

Presidents of the AMA Alumni Association

*Parker Ward, '54, 1970-71 ***
*Mickey Gordon, '39, 1971-74 **
*Seymour Wilks, '48, 1974-76 **
*V. P. Leavel, '39, 1976-78 **
*Paul Long, '51, 1978-80 **
Duke Fancher, '58, 1980-81
Dave Conrad, '59, 1981-82
Gordon Metz, '68, 1982-84
*Ron Mahanes, '53, 1984-86 **
*Stephen Rodgers, '57, 1986-88 **
*William Gray, '37, 1988-89 **
*Richard Llewellyn, '58, 1989-91 **
Edwin Click, '50, 1991-92
Tommy Simmons, '53, 1992-93
*Gary Nicholson, '70, 1993-97 **
Goodloe Saunders, '57, 1997-2001
Garry Granger, '71, 2001-2009
Jorge Roviroso, '70, 2009-present

* Deceased

** Died in office

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Three classes gear up for big anniversaries

The Classes of 1950, 1960 and 1970 will have significant anniversaries in 2010.

Tommy Clements, '50, has begun a letter writing campaign to his classmates urging them to come back for their 60th anniversary, **Luke Snyder, '60**, with the help of **Frank Williamson**, is working to get his classmates back for their 50th and **Jorge Roviroso, '70**, has written all from his class for whom the association has addresses urging them to come back for their 40th anniversary bash.

Jorge had mailed 68 letters and at press time had received about 20 responses. Tommy is just getting his first letters out.

Up to \$10,000 a year

New AMA Scholarship for "at risk" young men

A new "Roller Scholarship" made possible by a donation from **Woodward West Parks** will provide a gift of at least \$7,000 a year to a young man searching for a better life. Modeled on the national Kids At Risk (KAR) program, this scholarship would go to a young man or men (age 13-19) from Augusta County and the surrounding Shenandoah Valley area.

Norvell West, '83, is a principal in Woodward West Parks, has given \$7,000 to be used solely for this purpose in 2010 with the possibility of another \$3,000 coming. "We would like to make this a \$10,000 annual gift," he says.

Foundation Chairman Frank Williamson, '60, said, "We might select some deserving student and decide to support that boy for multiple years." AMA will work with area social services organizations and local educators in making the selections for the Roller Scholarship.

Blaine Clarke, '72, from Germantown, MD deals with at risk youths and it was his idea that AMA should "adopt" a young man to give them a better chance at being a success in life.

The AMA Scholarship Committee headed by **Chris Meek**, '84, has been asked to prepare the criteria for the scholarship and report back to the Foundation Trustees at their next meeting on 23 January in Annapolis, MD. The trustees will meet at the U. S. Naval Academy at the invitation of History Professor Dr. Mary DeCredico who has just been elected a trustee.

Giving this scholarship to someone in the Augusta County area helps to cement the importance of AMA in the community and our contribution to the cultural life of the Valley. In addition to this award, three AMA Legacy Scholarships, each worth \$2,000, will be awarded during Reunion 2010.

Scholarship application information is available at the AMA Alumni House/ Museum at AMAAlumniHouse@aol.com, by phone at 540/248-3007 or by snail mail to P. O. Box 100, Fort Defiance, VA 24437. Applications also may be lifted from our web site: AMAAlumni.org.

Applications for all scholarships must be postmarked by 19 March 2010.



Bill and Cathy Dundon visit the AMA Museum from Conklin, NY. He was in the Class of 1961.



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www.AdvantusStrategies.com

2010 AMA SPORTS HALL of FAME

The third class of inductees will enter the
AMA Sports Hall of Fame at Reunion 2010.

We are looking for nominations from every sport ever played at
Augusta: baseball, basketball, boxing, cavalry, cross country,
fencing, football, golf, lacrosse, rifle, rugby, soccer, swimming,
tennis, track and field, and wrestling.

Who do you remember as a star in one or more of these sports
at AMA, or after? Who were the best coaches at AMA, and
after? How about a sports reporter or broadcaster?

SEND NOMINATIONS TO:
2010 SPORTS HALL OF FAME
c/o AMA ALUMNI HOUSE/MUSEUM
POST OFFICE BOX 100

FORT DEFIANCE, VA 24437

or to: AMAAlumniHouse@aol.com

DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS:
4 JANUARY 2010





Howard Rosenthal, '68, has a challenge!

In the midst of all the cold financial clouds there came a warm beam of light! **Howard Rosenthal**, '68, and his wife, Ruth, came to the October Board of Trustees meeting to present the Foundation with their personal check for \$10,000! Howard has a challenge: *"If I can dig down and come up with ten thousand dollars, I know there are some more of you who can do the same."*

In addition, Howard and Ruth will contribute \$20 to the AMA Foundation for every donation of \$500 or more between now and next October. Says Foundation Chairman **Frank Williamson**, '60, *"Howard and Ruth saw our need and made this major contribution. This covers a full month of our annual \$120,000 budget which includes the Museum, our scholarships and The Bayonet. We will ever be in their debt."*

OK. The challenge is out there! We do desperately need your help to get us through these troubling times until we are able again to be receiving grants and more contributions from our alumni and friends. Join the President's Council by pledging or contributing at least \$1,000 in the next few months.

In the picture above, AMA Alumni President **Jorge Roviroa**, '70, left, and Williamson, right, accept the check from Rosenthal, center.

A fantastic web site!

Augusta Military Academy alumni are fortunate indeed to have a fantastic web site nurtured and updated by a brilliant fellow named **B.J. d'Orsay**, '70. With some of the highest grades ever earned at AMA, B.J., has gone on to do amazing things in his life, not the least of which is AMAAlumni.org.

It was B.J., who said early on that we had better grab a good website name and he clamped onto AMAAlumni.org before the American Medical Association or the American Management Association could claim it for their own.

If all goes as planned, you will soon be able to order from the PX, make a reservation for a reunion or make a contribution to the Foundation with PayPal, all on our web site. At this writing, *(continued on page 14)*

The President's Council

A new painless opportunity to help !

Have your name appear on a special paver brick on the AMA campus !

Be invited to attend a special event during each reunion !

Receive a special periodic newsletter detailing our financial situation !

OUR ANNUAL BUDGET IS ABOUT \$120,000
FOR THE MUSEUM , FOR SCHOLARSHIPS
AND FOR THE BAYONET.

If just 100 AMA friends will give \$1,000 a year,
that will cover most of our expenses

\$1,000 a year in this economy ? YES - it is just \$83³³ a month.
Just \$19¹⁸ a week. Only \$2⁷³ a day, maybe less than you spend for coffee!

WE NEED YOUR HELP AND WE NEED IT NOW

***Pledge \$1,000 a year for the next five years
and you'll be in the Chairman's Roundtable***

Roundtable members will receive a special pin to wear proudly at reunions ,
receive the special newsletter and be invited to a special event at reunions.

Until things return to some semblance of normalcy when grants for our museum
will be available once more, the AMA family has to step up to keep our ship on course.

Your contribution is TAX DEDUCTIBLE . Right now - write a check for \$1,000 or begin your weekly or monthly payments
Want us to charge your contribution to your credit card with monthly, quarterly or semi-annual payments? We can do
that ! E-mail AMAAlumniHouse@aol.com and give us your card number and expiration date. Or make check payable to:
AMA Alumni Foundation and mail to P.O. Box 100, Fort Defiance, VA 24437.

WE NEED YOU TO STEP UP NOW ! MANY THANKS !

Trustees endorse plan to keep Foundation afloat

Meeting at the AMA Alumni House/Museum in early October, the AMA Alumni Foundation trustees endorsed the revival of the President's Council encouraging alumni and AMA friends to go the extra mile in these troubled economic times by pledging to contribute at least \$1,000 a year to support the museum, our scholarships and *The Bayonet*.

Foundation Chairman Frank Williamson, '60, said that "a thousand dollars in these times may sound like a lot, but if you break it down, it's only \$2.73 a day, less than many of us spend on coffee. It's \$19.18 a week spread over 52 weeks and \$83.33 a month for each of twelve months. Contributions are coming in

Just \$2⁷³ a day or \$19¹⁸ a week!

at less than a snail's pace but the bills come due every month with a frustrating regularity."

Foundation Treasurer Bud Oakey, '70, said that those who contribute at least one thousand dollars in a year will be honored with specially engraved paver bricks on the AMA campus, will be invited to a special event at each reunion and will receive a periodic newsletter reporting on the Foundation's financial situation.

"Just this past year, we were able to get our first grant from the State of Virginia," Oakey said, "but the economic climate in Richmond makes it highly unlikely that there will be more grant money coming from the State in the foreseeable future." In the meantime, he says, we have to turn to our alumni and friends to keep us moving forward until grant money is again available.

The recent survey of the AMA Museum has helped complete the accreditation of the museum. With that accreditation in hand, it will be easier to get grants from non-government sources, Oakey says. "In the meantime, we are tightening our belts and saving where we can while depending on the generosity of our alumni who got so much from our little school."

Those who will pledge at least \$1,000 a year for the next five years will become members of the Chairman's Roundtable. In addition to the benefits given members of the President's Council, Roundtable members will receive special pins and recognition at each reunion during the five year pledge period.

Rovirosa, Granger will shave heads at reunion if President's Council gets at least 100 signups

The search is on for Benny the Barber. Gordon Metz, '68, has the chair from the AMA Barber Shop which he will bring to the 2010 reunion. All that is needed is a couple of heads for Benny to go to work on.

New Alumni President Jorge Rovirosa, '70, and the former President Garry Granger, '71, have agreed to have their heads shaved in a very public place at Reunion 2010 if at least 100 alumni and friends sign up for the President's Council.

The President's Council is being touted as a way to get AMA through its present financial crisis. One must give \$1,000 in a year to become a Council member. If 100 contributors will sign up, that will provide \$100,000 of the annual \$120,000 budget.

So, will Garry and Jorge have to shed their tresses at the reunion? Oh, pray that they will! Help assure that this will happen by signing up for the President's Council today.

Make your check payable to: AMA Alumni Foundation and mail to P. O. Box 100, Fort Defiance, VA 24437-0100.

Or put it on your credit card at: AMAAlumniHouse@aol.com. Give your credit card number and the expiration date.

If you can't handle \$1,000 all at once, how about \$83 a month? Or \$19 a week? Or \$2.73 a day?

All that dark Rovirosa hair and the red Granger locks will make a nice souvenir! Maybe we'll bag it and sell it to the highest bidder. In any case, let's be sure the shearing takes place.



Here's how they might look? Isn't this worth a thousand bucks?



Blaine Clarke, '72, first to join the PC

When the Foundation trustees reinvigorated the President's Council, Blaine Clarke, '72, was the first to present his check for \$1,000. Shown at right, Blaine gives his check to Museum Administrator Crysta Stephenson while Howard Rosenthal, '68, waits his turn. Alumni Association President Jorge Rovirosa, '70, has challenged all the Alumni Association board members and Foundation trustees to make a \$1,000 commitment as soon as possible. There can be two payments of \$500, four of \$250 or \$83 a week. It is easier than you might think! Just \$19.18 a week or \$2.73 a day – less than most of us spend for coffee or beer!



Bruce Hemp has collected soccer balls for Larry's Afghan troops

Brigadier General Larry Nicholson, '75, commands more than 10,000 Marines in Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan. When AMA alumni asked him what could be done to boost his troops' morale, General Nicholson asked that school supplies and small toys be sent for distribution to children in Afghanistan. (See related story on page 16).

The AMA Alumni Association created the Afghan Kids Campaign and AMA good friend Bruce Hemp, a math teacher at Fort Defiance High School and a graduate of Stuart Hall, volunteered to spearhead the campaign. She has gotten kids from FDHS and residents of the area involved and by late August, she had 14 boxes full of items for the children.

Several hundred soccer balls have been sent off to General Nicholson who will give them to his troopers who in turn will distribute them to Afghan children. *"We are trying to have an impact on the peace process and by reaching the Afghan children we are reaching the generation we must start with,"* says Hemp.

Local media including the Harrisonburg TV station has given wide publicity to the effort. AMA Alumni Association President **Jorge Rovirosa**, '70, thanked Hemp for her leadership role: *"It is so satisfying to see Stuart Hall and AMA alumni working together for this worthy cause."*

AMA Alaska cruise set for next August

An AMA cruise to Alaska is being planned for 14-25 August 2010 according to **Brenda** and **Goodloe Saunders**, '57. This will be a land tour as well as a cruise and is organized by Princess Cruise Lines out of Vancouver, BC, Canada.

More details will be printed in the first *Bayonet* of 2010. For further information now, call Michael McCombs a 800/901-1172, X41634. Tell him you are with the AMA Group sponsored by Goodloe and Brenda Saunders.

Colonel Mal and Linda Livick have a new e-mail address:
lindalivick@gmail.com



GEOMETRY CLASS - Bruce Kemp's geometry class at Fort Defiance High School packed up the boxes for the Afghan kids.



STATE FAIR WINNER - Alex Arbogast won top prize for his LEGO dragon at the West Virginia State Fair. He has two AMA grandfathers: the late Robert Arbogast, '39, and Bud LaFollette, '50.

Web site from page 11 you can already see PX items on line. Want to know about the Roller Society or our scholarships or view a YouTube clip from THE AMA WAY? It's all there. So are all *The Bayonets* from 2006 on and many *Recalls* have been scanned in their entirety. There is also a *Bayonet* index to help you find the story or photo you are looking for. There are campus scenes, photos from reunions and even complete scrapbooks! All the known e-mail addresses of AMA alumni are on our web page, thanks to B.J. If you haven't visited AMAAlumni.org recently, you'll find a treasure of information. Thank you, B.J., for a fantastic web page!



TOM TERRIFIC - Tommy Clements, '50, from Jackson, Mississippi brought his daughter, Kathy, to see AMA.

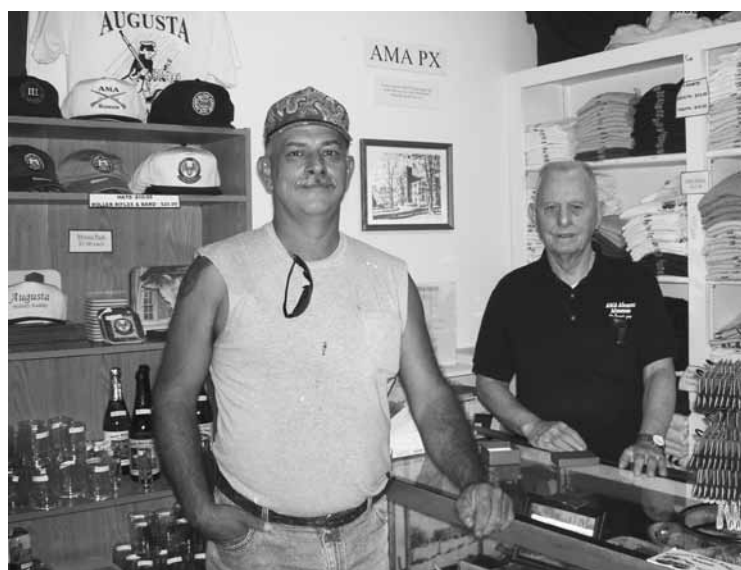


FIRST TIME BACK - Mickey Caviness, '62, on his first time back on post in 47 years.

RECENT MUSEUM VISITORS



STARS FROM STARR - Bill Monroe, '49, and his wife visit from Starr, SC.



WINE IN THE PX? - Yes, Jeff Wine, '78, with Sergeant Joe.



Linda and Tom Peifer, '74, are from Harrington, DE.

We are so pleased always to have our alumni and friends visit the AMA Museum. We are quite proud of our little museum which has earned high praise from conservation experts, one of whom has responsibility for the American Presidential Libraries. So – WELCOME! And if you live near Fort Defiance, won't you please take a turn as a museum guide? All of our visitors want to talk with people who were there when AMA was open.



Attention in barracks!

General Larry Nicholson was asked what his AMA brothers can do to help him do his most difficult job in Afghanistan. He said, "Send me things I can give to the kids."

So that is what we have been doing. With the invaluable help of AMA friend and Stuart Hall alumna **Bruce Higginbotham Hemp**, nearly 20 boxes have been sent to General Nicholson from AMA alumni – pencils, notebooks, crayons, coloring books, Beanie Babies and similar toys, hard candy such as Skittles, and soccer balls. Lots and lots of soccer balls! As a matter of fact, we need \$1,700 just to buy the soccer balls already promised to Larry. He says these soccer balls make the biggest hit with the kids who have so little. By the way, if you know someone who can get a wholesale price on the balls or who will donate a goodly number, let us know right away!

By the way, Bruce's friends at Fort Defiance High School and Stuart Hall have sent 25 boxes to date! Sixteen FDHS faculty members plus a number of students raised the \$300 needed for postage! And **Liz Hash** who now works in the James Madison registrar's office also has sent boxes.

What does Larry say about what we are doing? This from his e-mail to **Ozzie Ferro, '53, Al Zayas, '72, and Luis Iglesias, '75**, who have been sending packages on their own: *"Thank you for the terrific support! It means so much to know that you and my AMA brothers are standing with us. I can't tell you how excited Marines get when I bring these boxes to them. It is like Christmas every day!"*

Bruce estimates that to date, AMA alumni, Stuart Hall and Fort Defiance High have sent 55 packages in all worth more than \$8,000! But the work has just begun. That number does NOT include soccer balls and school supplies ordered through companies and shipped directly to General Nicholson.

In all, we believe that nearly 700 soccer balls have gone to him and he says he can use 100 EACH MONTH for distribution to the Afghan kids.

If you want to send a package directly to Larry, here is the address:

**BGen Larry Nicholson
Camp Leatherneck
2nd MEB, Unit 73010
FPO AE 09510-3010**

Postage on a 15" X 15" X 6" box is \$11.95 for any weight!

If you want to help us reach our goal of 100 soccer balls a month, please send your contribution to:

**AMA Afghan Kids Campaign
c/o AMA Alumni Foundation
P. O. Box 101
Fort Defiance, VA 24437-0101**

Make your tax deductible check payable to the AMA Alumni Foundation. Or put it on your credit card. Phone 540/248-3007 or e-mail AMAAlumniHouse@aol.com.

Do you belong to a civic club or church group who would sponsor 100 soccer balls a month? Or how about your place of work?

We need about \$1,700 to pay for 100 soccer balls per month now through March (Larry comes home in April). **AMA will be heard from today. Semper Fidelis!**



General Larry Nicholson, '75, commands Marine Expeditionary Force in Afghanistan

This past summer, **Brigadier General Larry Nicholson, '75**, deployed to Afghanistan as part of the 17,000 man force sent there by President Obama. Nicholson is Commanding General of the 2nd Marine Expeditionary Brigade, a combined force of more than 10,000 troops.

Since Larry and his Marines arrived in country, Taliban forces have stepped up their attacks on American and coalition troops while conducting a reign of terror on the civilian population undermining U.S. efforts to depend more and more on Afghan troops to defend their own country.

Task Force Leatherneck had the task of creating forward operating bases at places where there was nothing but dust the day before. Said General Nicholson, *"I've had the great honor and privilege to visit routinely our Marines living in the most rugged and Spartan conditions. They don't have a lot of creature comforts... this is tough... this is hard work."* Fighting in unrelenting heat and sandstorms, the General said that getting water to his troops can be accomplished rather easily *"but being able to get them refreshing cool water is much more of a problem."*



General Nicholson briefs former British Prime Minister Tony Blair on the military situation in Afghanistan.



General Nicholson and Sergeant Major Ernest Hoopii pay their respects to Lance Corporal Joshua Bernard who was mortally wounded in a Taliban ambush.

Early on, we asked Larry what his AMA friends could do to make his job easier. Immediately, he came back and asked us to gather up school supplies and send them to him. School supplies? Yes, says Larry, *"The good we can buy with dime store gifts is truly incalculable. The kids have so little that there is hardly anything that they don't appreciate."*

He has asked for coloring books, crayons, markers, pencils and small spiral notebooks. And soccer balls. Lots of soccer balls. Inexpensive kids' sunglasses, Beanie Babies or facsimiles thereof, squirt guns and bubble blowers.



AMA friend and Stuart Hall graduate **Bruce Hemp** took on the task of asking her alumni and AMA alumni to pitch in and help. **Ozzie Ferro, '53**, has already dispatched several packages to Larry and Larry has acknowledged the arrival of the boxes. He would like to get about 100 soccer balls each month. *"The*

areas we are operating in are much more permissive in that the kids will not be targeted for their association with us. We will work to ensure as best we can that Afghan Police and soldiers hand out the goods. We are trying to build that lineage between them and the community. All the gifts will definitely be appreciated by the kids."

Bruce Hemp gave particular thanks to Ozzie, **Maryann** and **Rick Smail, '67**, **Steve Traylor, '72**, **B. J. d'Orsay, '70**, and a colleague of hers, Sharon Bolan, for their support.

Dave Shearer, '69, has challenged fellow Marines to help out. *"Balls not Bullets,"* Dave says.

To keep up our support for Larry and his Marines, we need the money to pay for the supplies and for shipping them to Afghanistan. Send your check in any amount to: AMA Afghan Kids Campaign, P. O. Box 101, Fort Defiance, VA 24437-0101. Bruce or someone from AMA will do the shopping to fill more boxes for Larry's Marines. Semper Fi!

Jeff Hoagland, '64, had many Marine friends when he died

The coldly worded casualty report said that **Jeff Hoagland** had died from small arms fire on 24 April 1970 and that his name is located on Panel 11W, Row 046 on the Vietnam Wall. He was 19.

"Hoagy" is well remembered by Carl Hitchens who was in his Marine Corps squad. *"We got ambushed by another Marine squad in January of 1969," Hitchens recalls. "Hoagy quickly deduced that the 'enemy' fire was actually American ordnance and our platoon leader was able to call off the fire thereby saving our skins. Another time our 3rd platoon ran into a North Vietnamese base camp and we had three killed right away. A machine gun opened up catching Hoagland and another Marine out in the open. We lobbed frag grenades over their heads toward the enemy while they backward-crawled to safety."*

Later in January of 1969, "Hoagy saved my life for sure," Hitchens says. *"We came under heavy enemy fire and we all dived into some tall grass. I tried to raise up to see where the fire was coming from and he pushed me back down with his entire weight, saying, 'Keep your ****ing head down, Hitch.' Rounds sizzled through the grass and just barely missed me."*

Hitchens says the last time he saw Hoagy as he was transferring to another unit, he was *"alive and kicking"* and he did not know until 2005 that his friend had been killed 35 years earlier.

"I feel it is such irony that Jeffrey was KIA just five months before the 7th Marines were out of Nam."

Elmer Sangster was Hoagland and Hitchens' squad leader and he wanted to get a picture of his squad as he was being transferred to another unit. *"Hoagland was cleaning his M-16 and did not want to pose. I got him to anyway and there he is holding half of his M-16 and not looking happy."*

Dave Shearer, '68, ended up in the same company as Hoagland in Vietnam (A Company, 1st Battalion, 7th Marines, 1st Marine Division). *"Jeff was in the third platoon, I was in the second,"* he says. Dave is hoping to find someone who is kin to Hoagland to invite them to future reunions of the unit. If any of our readers know where to find any of Hoagland's kin, please contact Dave at: dave1969@earthlink.net.

Jeff Hoagland lived in Arlington, VA and attended the AMA Junior School for three years before returning home and graduating from York High School. A corporal in F Company, he played Peep football, wrestled and was on the track team.



**Jeff Hoagland,
1964 Recall**



VIETNAM, 1969 - Jeff Hoagland, '64, stands at left with half of his M-16. (The story at left explains that) Others in the photo are from Jeff's Marine Corps squad including Carl Hitchens, his squad leader, kneeling, left.



DON'T WE ALL WISH WE LOOKED LIKE THIS KID? - This is a VMI Keydet on the 82 mile march from Lexington to the Civil War Battlefield at New Market. With him is AMA Museum Docent Doug Carter, '72, remembering what it was like to look that way.

Alumni who have helped the AMA Afghan Kids Campaign

Ozzie Ferro, '53 ♡ Al Zayas, '72 ♡ Maryanne and Rick Smail, '67 ♡ Sergeant Don Studer ♡ Steve Traylor, '72 ♡ B. J. d'Orsay, '70 ♡ Luis Iglesias, '75 ♡ Jorge Rovirosa, '70 ♡ Garry Granger, '71 ♡ Liz Hash ♡ Harry Campbell, '70 ♡ Jim Atchison, '73 ♡ Blaine Clarke, '72 ♡ David Shearer, '68 ♡ Louis and Jim McGavock, '46 ♡ Frank Spencer, '49 ♡ Ben Zinkhan, '60 ♡ Sergio Fernandez, '56

Do you want to send packages to Larry Nicholson's Marines?

Here is what the Marines need/want:
Baby wipes ♡ Beef jerky ♡ Ground Starbucks or Dunkin' Donuts Coffee ♡ Propel drink mixes for water bottles ♡ Tuna salad lunch packs ♡ Dried fruit bags ♡ Cigars ♡ Energy bars (not chocolate because it will melt) ♡ News, sports and hunting magazines ♡ Copenhagen/Skoal ♡ Telephone cards ♡ Dr. Scholl's inner soles

SPOTLIGHT on STEVE BARBER, '78

His documentary "Return to Tarawa" finds many dead Marines still there

It was seven above zero when Steve Barber's step-father drove him and his brother through the Front Gate at Augusta one bleak February morning. Steve was 15 years old and to quote him, "I had had better days. I was frightened when I was left in the office with Colonel Livick and was quite sure that my life was over."

Steve was assigned to Band Company and played Reveille and Taps each morning and evening. One of his best memories was playing Taps for a 100 year old World War One veteran who was laid to rest in the Augusta Stone Church Cemetery. "I was all alone about 100 feet from the grave and played a perfect Taps," he recalls. He remembers being marched up the hill to church on Sundays, listening to the minister "while admiring his very attractive blonde wife while he referred to us as 'The Saints of Augusta.' I don't think he knew us very well."

Steve has been back to Augusta only twice in 31 years, "each time around midnight. I would sit in front of Big Barracks and reflect. I could almost hear the bugle calls to formation and the noise and spirit of the AMA cadets as they marched to soup."



The climate and atmosphere in Fort Defiance on that winter day when Steve Barber first came to AMA could hardly be compared with the heat and humidity of Tarawa, an atoll in the Marshall Islands, which would host a bloody battle in World War Two.

In order to set up forward air bases capable of supporting operations across the mid-Pacific, The Philippines and on to Japan itself, the U.S. needed to take the Marianas Islands. The Marianas were heavily defended and for attacks against them to succeed, land based bombers would have to be located within striking distance. The nearest area capable of supporting such an operation were the Marshall Islands but a Japanese garrison on the small island of Beito on the western side of Tarawa Atoll in the Gilbert Islands had to be subdued before the rest of the plan could roll out, or so said the military planners.

The 2nd Marine Division and part of the Army's 27th Infantry Division — 35,000 in all — would throw themselves against the strongly entrenched enemy which the U.S. outnumbered almost seven to one. The battle for Tarawa lasted three days from 20 November 1943 to 23 November. Of the 5,000 Japanese on the island, only one Japanese officer, 16 enlisted men and 129 Koreans were left alive. The Marines had 990 killed and 2,296 wounded. The Navy lost 687 men and the Army had 156 casualties. Many asked, "Was Tarawa worth the price,?" and Marine General Holland Smith said no. The wounded were evacuated and the dead were put into temporary graves with the plan of bringing them all home or to one of the U.S. Military Cemeteries in the Pacific. One of the Navy men who made it back home was Leon Cooper.

Nearly 66 years later, Cooper, now the sole survivor of the battle, learned that Red Beach on which so much American blood



STEVE AND ED - Steve Barber, '78, left, with Ed Harris who narrated "Return to Tarawa."



Cadet Steven C. Barber, '78

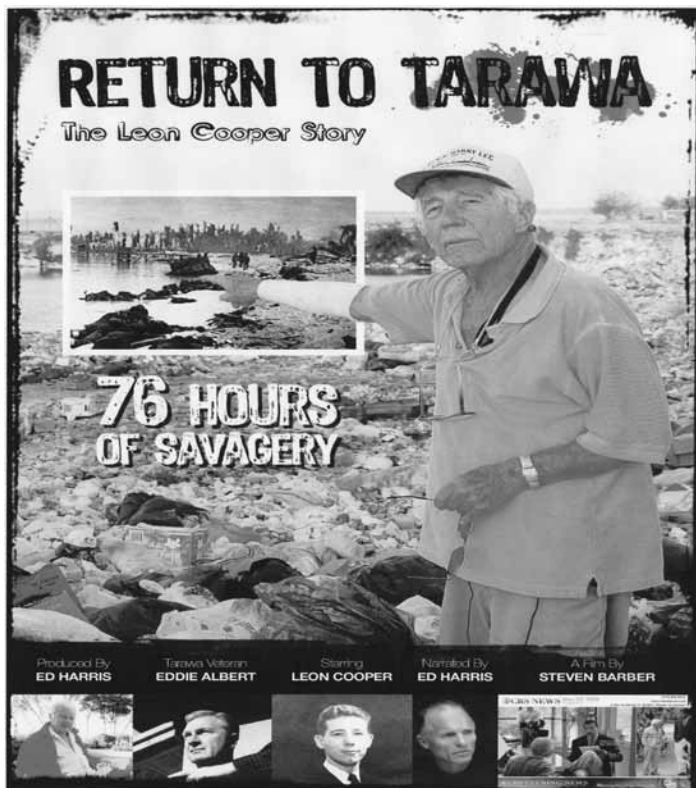
had been shed was covered with trash that had washed ashore — beverage can rings, plastic dishes, paper and miscellaneous garbage — all massed in a spot where Marines gave their last full measure of devotion. And the crusty 89 year old was damned determined to do something about it.



Steve Barber had been a marketing executive with a firm that was bought out by a hedge fund. "The new CEO and I were like oil and water," he says and they soon parted ways. Someone suggested that Steve would be good directing documentaries "so I went out and spent \$20,000 on equipment and started shooting everything and anything that came in sight." His first documentary dealt with 28 disabled athletes who made 267 miles in their wheel chairs in an extraordinary six days through deep mountain passes in

Alaska. That film was narrated by Dan Aykroyd.

When Steve heard Leon Cooper's story he dedicated himself to making a documentary which would reveal the plight of the hallowed beaches on Tarawa coupled with a demand that they be



A flyer promoting "Return to Tarawa." That's Leon Cooper showing where he steered his Navy landing craft.

made pristine once again. It took a mountain of work and preparation to get Cooper and a film crew to Tarawa but Barber got it done. The documentary shows Cooper looking out the window of the plane that carried him back to that place of personal hell. They met with island leaders and got encouragement about cleaning things up.

Then, Barber and Cooper discovered something that absolutely floored them: U. S. Marines were still buried in unmarked graves all around the atoll. What started out as an attempt to clean up the beach now became a mission to repatriate the brave young Americans who had perished in the battle. *"There were bones everywhere,"* Barber says. *"Our valiant dead were not being reclaimed or protected."* Barber and Cooper came home to petition Congress to authorize the recovery and identification of American remains still on Tarawa. This past July, the House adopted a "sense of Congress" that all should be recovered as soon as possible. Senate action awaits.

After 25 years in the entertainment industry, Steve Barber made a moving and poignant film about 89 year old Leon Cooper and his quest for the honors brave Americans earned. Ed Harris is the narrator and the film is airing on the Military Channel.

Barber has just completed his first novel *Below the Waterline*, a whimsical tale loosely based on Steve's tenure on cruise ships as a DJ, port lecturer and cruise director in the mid 80s and early 90s. He now lives in Venice, California and spends his time *"attacking the Hollywood Machine... It is a tough sport, the film making biz, but with one movie behind me and legislation to bring home the MIAs from Tarawa, I am up to the task, in part from the time and wisdom I learned at the Augusta Military Academy so long ago."*

"Return to Tarawa" can be seen by logging on to:
www.hulu.com/watch/74507/return-to-tarawa

"Return to Tarawa" is being shown repeatedly on the Military Channel. Check your TV listings for the next scheduled showings.

Volunteers from far and near, but we need more "near" ones

Doug Pennock, '68, came from Puerto Rico. Tommy Clements, '50, came from Mississippi. Tom DelValle, '73, came from Texas.

They came to Fort Defiance to take a turn at welcoming visitors to the AMA Museum. So did Garry Granger, '71, and Becky from Texas, Bob Bradford, '50, from California and Frank Williamson, '60, and Bev from Richmond.

How nice it was that these folks gave our regular volunteers a break! Sergeant Joe Josephson, Goodloe Saunders, '57, Ben Zinkhan, '60, Clyde Ramsey, '49, and Frank Spencer, '49 are at their posts every week. Greg Pearce, '65, Warren Fleming, '72, Victor Gomez, '69, Bill McVey, '60, Doug Carter, '72, and Bookie Westbrook, '66, volunteer quite often. Danny Shafer, Tina's husband, also volunteered before they moved away to Florida and of course, Don Studer was faithfully there before he left us.

Joe, Goodloe and Ben are there at least one day a week from 10 AM until 4 PM. The problem comes when weekends are not covered. That means that one of the regulars has to cover Saturday and/or Sunday. There are literally hundreds of AMA alumni who live within a one hour drive to Fort Defiance. What we desperately need is for some of these good folks to take a six hour shift on a Saturday or a Sunday. That's it – six hours. Maybe you can't give money at this time but can't you give six hours out of the 720 hours in a month? And, to quote Frank Spencer, *"You'll like it! You'll meet alumni who haven't been back for years and you can share stories about your time at AMA."*

Think about it and call Crysta Stephenson at 540/248-3007 to see when you might be able to help.



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You will reach a special audience who will reward your loyalty!

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January, May and September

Copy deadline:

First Friday of publication month

Size	1 issue	2 issues	3 issues
¼ page	\$ 90	\$155	\$235
½ page	175	300	450
Full page	325	550	800

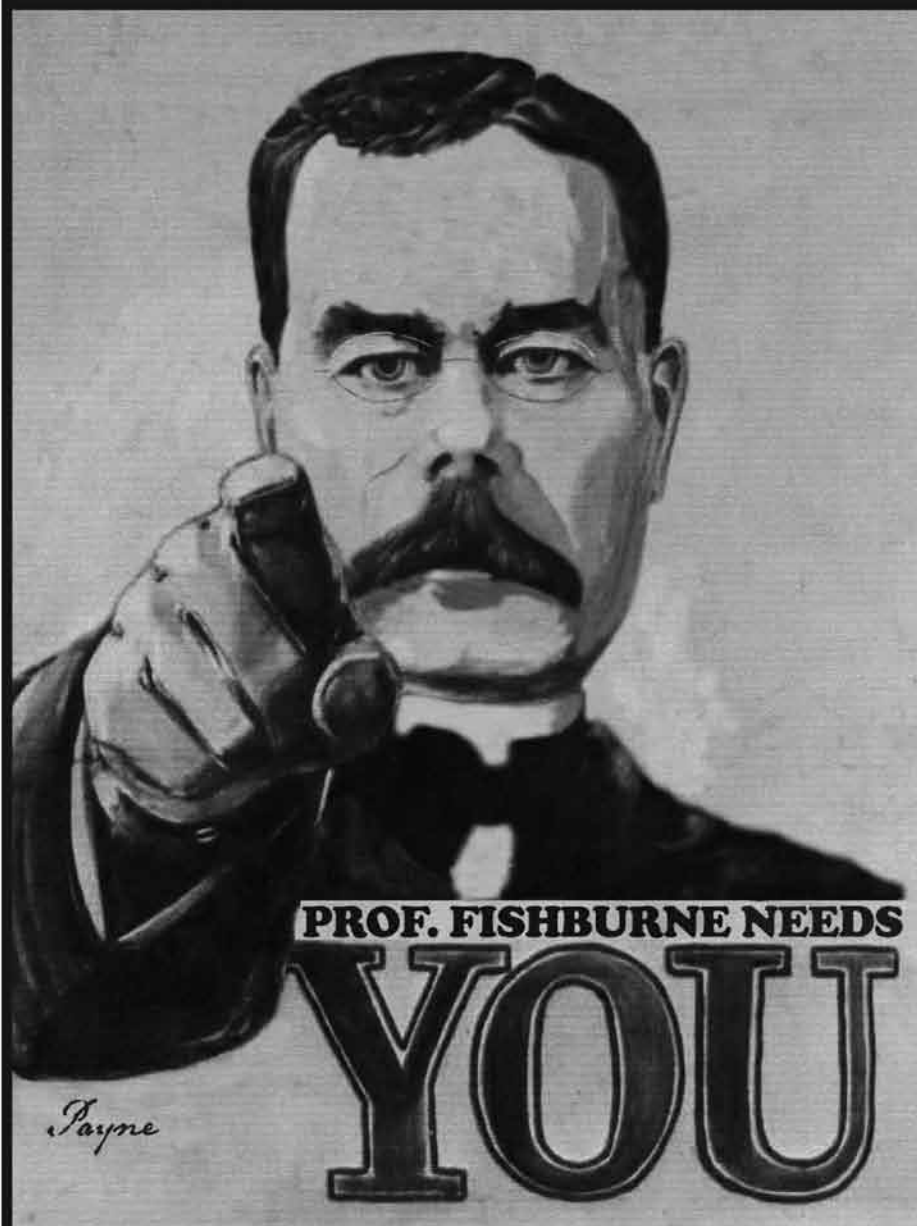
These prices are dependent on the advertiser's furnishing a press ready PDF or EPS file, or camera ready copy.

If the ad is to be produced by *The Bayonet*, there may be some additional cost involved. If you are an AMA alumnus, these costs will be waived.

The cost of an advertisement may be a business expense and will help you to reach a unique audience in a personal way.

For information about a prospective ad, the formatting criteria and Foundation approval of a proposed advertisement, please contact Bob Bradford, '50, Editor, *The Bayonet*, 1687 Schillers Court, Folsom, CA 95630. FAX: 916/817-8596. AMABayonet@aol.com

A.M.A. ALUMNI:



Your one-time rival, Fishburne, needs your help. We are looking to enroll young men, grades 8-12, who are legacies of A.M.A. alumni. Scholarships are available and we invite you to contact our Admissions office to learn more.

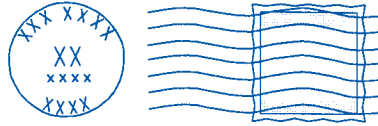
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Letters to the Editor



Sixty-two years is not forever

This past Spring, I visited the AMA Alumni House and my visit brought back many memories. Sixty-two years ago is not forever and I am hoping to hear from some of my 1947 classmates. After Augusta, I attended the University of Virginia, then dental school at the Medical College of Virginia.

I was on active duty in the Army 1955-57, then in private practice in Norfolk until I retired in 1996. In the meantime, I was President of the Virginia Dental Association and of the International College of Dentists.

Sixty-two years ago is not forever and as I said, I am hoping to hear from some of my 1947 classmates.

Dr. Many Michaels, '47
Norfolk, VA

Close to becoming an AMA cadet

It was an honor to meet **Ben Zinkhan** at your museum and to interview him for ShenandoahValley.com. After living here in the Shenandoah Valley for 30 years, I am still finding "gems" and the AMA Museum certainly is one of them.

On a personal note, I may have come very close to becoming an AMA cadet in the 1960s. At the time, I was living in Eastern Pennsylvania and there was talk of sending me to a boarding school. I remember seeing catalogs from various military academies and recall that AMA was one of them. At the time, I could never have dreamed that I would end up in this beautiful place and one day stumble across one of the military academies I had not thought of for 50 years.

hank@shenandoahvalley.com **Hank Zimmerman**
Producer and host, Shenandoah Valley Radio®
Fort Valley, VA

Thanks for remembering Ray Long, '45

Thank you so much for remembering my husband, Ray Long. It is hard to comprehend such an enormous loss but hearing from his AMA friends really helps warm the void. Thank you also that you will remember Ray at the Founder's Day services during your 2010 reunion. That is very special.

Nancy (Mrs. Ray) Long
Peoria, AZ

A tribute to a great father

I just wanted to say thank you for all the many years of support and friendship AMA folks gave my father. He lived, breathed and died Augusta. He was faithful to all of you as you were to him. I recently did my routine check of the AMA web site and learned even more about my father.

My father was strict, to say the least. He was always

honest, no matter what. He treated me sometimes (to my dislike) as a cadet, white glove test and all. I never understood why things were the way they were until, sadly, after he died. He wasn't being mean – he was trying to make me a better, stronger person. He was trying to teach me the lessons he learned at AMA.

I miss him with all my heart. Every single day when he was alive, I tried to make him proud. My Dad always gave it to me straight and never sugar coated it. My father loved me no matter what I did and I did some things when I was younger that would make many parents turn their backs. My father faced it head on.

My father loved AMA. He gave up a lot of things in his life for AMA. He felt so alive there! It is the best picture I have of my Dad is from an AMA reunion. We were standing there in front of a military vehicle and I was wearing an AMA sweatshirt. We were finally connected.

When my daddy got sick, it was awful. The man I loved so much... his true friends showed themselves. I want to thank you most of all. My mother would never have made it through without you and neither would I or my sister.

We went to the Roller Society Paver Ceremony at the museum and that was painful too. Not because of the ceremony but because my dad's paver was there with my grandfather's paver that my parents had purchased.

The reality is that you should live every day as if it were your last but at your best. Learn from every little mistake. Thank you, Augusta Military Academy. You have made me a better person who is always trying to improve because of what you did for my dad.

My father was **Gary Nicholson, '70.**
smokeandrose@earthlink.net **Meredith Nicholson**
Ganyon



Clyde Ramsey, '49, and his 2006 Harley Dyna Streak 1450cc

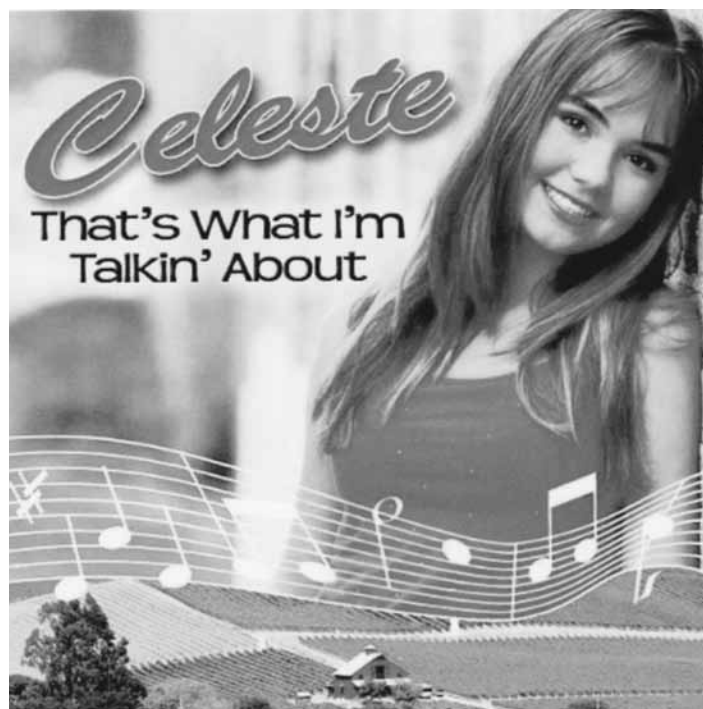
Teen singer helped Brett to find an old AMA friend

Brett Thompson, '75, has been trying to locate his AMA chum Carl Kellogg, '73. The last time they saw each other was at Doc Savedge's funeral in December 1991.

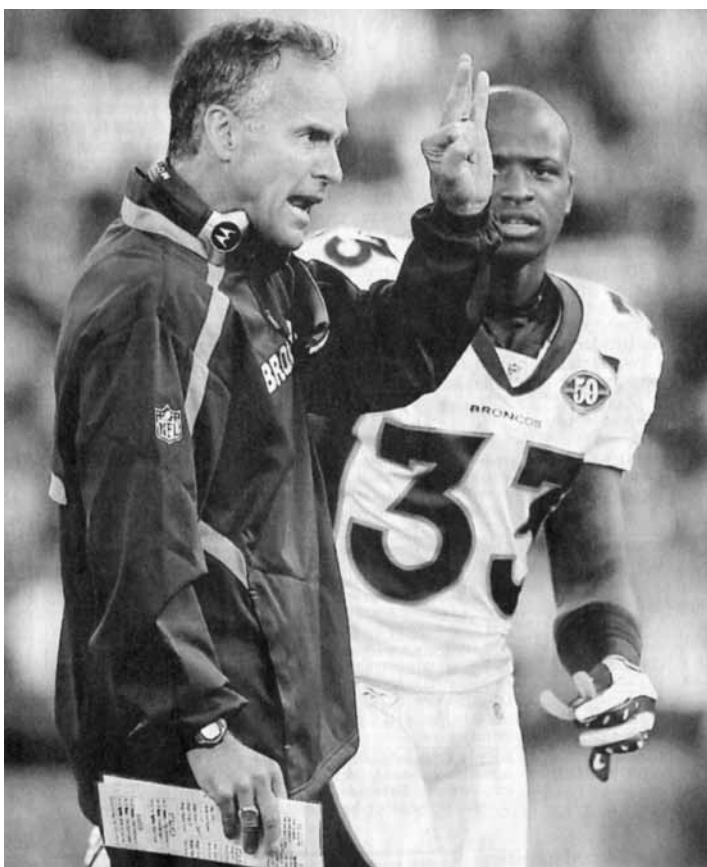
Imagine Brett's surprise when he was contacted on Facebook by Celeste Kellogg, Carl's 15 year old daughter who is an actress and country/pop singer. Celeste was asking for Brett's vote to help keep her atop a Tweenpop poll. Through Celeste, Brett got back in touch with Carl who owns a water utility company and a well drilling business in Smithfield, VA where he has been for the past 31 years. He graduated from the University of Richmond in 1978 and after working six years for R. L. Magette Company, he bought his own drilling business in 1984.

Back to Celeste – she began singing in front of audiences at age five. When Radio Disney had auditions for a pop group, she was selected to be a member of RD7. Throughout 2006-2007, Celeste opened for Raven in Concert, the Jonas Brothers and was on the Kelly Clarkson "Addicted to Love" tour and opened the Cheetah Girls/Hanna Montana concerts. She opened for Leann Rimes this past June. She has recorded four new songs with a sound similar to Taylor Swift and Kellie Pickler. Her new single "That's What I'm Talkin' About" can be found on I-tunes and Amazon.com. By the way, Celeste has a 4.0 in school! For more information about Celeste, go to Myspace.com/celeste.kellogg.

Carl's e-mail address is: kelloggdrilling@aol.com.



The album cover for Celeste Kellogg's new single, "That's What I'm Talkin' About."



PUTTING THE "D" BACK IN DENVER - Defensive Coordinator Mike Nolan, the son of Dick Nolan, '50, has been hired by the Denver Broncos to fix their defense which ranked 29th last season. Mike was let go by the 49ers as their head coach.

Where are Gen. Nicholson's sons?

BG Larry Nicholson, '75, Commanding General of the 2nd Marine Expeditionary Brigade in Afghanistan, checked in to let us know what his three sons are doing. Two of them, Andrew and Kevin, are following in their Dad's footsteps.

Oldest son Andrew graduated from The Citadel in 2004 and is a USMC Captain at Quantico teaching new lieutenants before they head out to the Fleet Marine Forces. Andrew had two tours in Fallujah. Youngest son Kevin graduated from The Citadel in 2008 and is a 2nd lieutenant assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment at Camp Lejeune and will deploy sometime in 2010. Middle son Danny lives in Manhattan where he works for Newell Rubbermaid. He graduated from the University of South Carolina in 2006.

John Maragon, FMS, has hip replacement

AMA friend and supporter John Maragon, a graduate and ardent supporter of Fishburne, had hip replacement surgery in July. John, we hope you are doing well. Thank you so very much for being such a loyal supporter and contributor.

OOPS

In reporting on the awarding of AMA Legacy Scholarships to Taylor and Rebecca Daniels, granddaughters of **Stokes Daniels, '49**, *The Bayonet* referred to them as his daughters. We also said that Stokes' grandson Daniel Sagmiller had earned the AMA scholarship in 2004 and 2006. In fact, Daniel received a scholarship in 2004 while another grandson, Robert Sagmiller, was awarded in 2006.

Volunteers needed! Please step up and volunteer for a Saturday or Sunday at the AMA Museum. Phone 540/248-3007.

**A message from
JIM ATCHISON, '73
AMA PX Chairman**

The AMA Alumni Museum PX is making some improvements and we are looking for your input. Like any business, especially during soft economic times, inventory can get stale, outdated or just doesn't sell. We are looking for ways to move this inventory and asking your help in restocking. What would you like to see us carry? We are in the process of purchasing some logoed apparel, most likely a quality golf style shirt and either a fleece or wind shirt

for outerwear. Those of you that haven't been back recently may not have seen the new hats and "original issue" sweatshirts from the late '60's and early seventies. We have also brought in some children's hoodies that make great gifts.

I have spent many years in the golf business and have access to many vendors who can get us items that you see in pro shops with our AMA logos. Please help us by getting in touch with us and letting us know what you would like to see. Would you like a computer case or backpack with the AMA logo? How about a set of engraved tumblers or printed koozies? It's been suggested that we pick up a soft-sided cooler with AMA emblazoned on the side? Please email your ideas and suggestions to: AMA1865PX@gmail.com

We also are working on setting up an eBay store so it will be easier to purchase those items. We plan on putting a link on our website that will direct you to our AMA PX eBay store and you will be able to see the merchandise with a description, pricing and shipping costs. We hope to have this up and running by Thanksgiving so you can take advantage of it for this upcoming Holiday Season.

Please keep checking www.amaalumni.org for our updated PX merchandise, timely specials and clearance items. In the meantime, look through the PX catalog which begins on the facing page. This catalog contains many clearance items which may not be offered again.

AMA volunteers sought for Christmas wreath laying at Arlington

Fifteen thousand Maine balsam fir holiday wreaths will be placed on graves at the Arlington National Cemetery on the second Saturday in December.

Greg Pearce, '65, who has participated in the wreath laying for the past three years, says that those who would like to help this year should be at McClellan Arch on McClellan Drive by 8 AM on Saturday 12 December. For those who participated in 2008, the meeting place is the same as last year. A briefing will begin at 8:30 AM and the wreath laying will get underway at 9 AM. At the conclusion of the project, a special wreath ceremony will be held at the Tomb of the Unknowns at the noon hour.

Morrill Worcester, owner of Worcester Wreath Company in Harrington, Maine will donate the 15,000 wreaths which will be placed in Sections 2, 9, 31 and 37 as assigned by ANC officials. You can learn more about this project by checking out: www.wreathscrossamerica.org. Or you can e-mail Greg at: gregp692@cs.com.

Due to the large number of volunteers expected to participate, ANC officials recommend that the Metro Rail (Blue Line) be used to get to the cemetery. There will be very limited parking in the cemetery employee and administrative parking lots (off King Drive) and along specific roads located to the east of Eisenhower Drive. Signs will be posted guiding volunteers to parking areas.



WARM HEART, COLD JOB - Greg wears his AMA shirt when he decorates the graves at Arlington. This photo is from 2007.

As Christmas approaches, think about placing an order from the AMA PX. There are things there for kids and adults, all at reasonable prices with each purchase benefitting AMA. Order clothing items early to be sure you get the size you want. Check out the catalog which starts on the facing page. Inside, you will find a handy order blank !



BIG BOY AND THE BOSS - We believe these photos were made of General and Mrs. Roller in 1948, obviously in the winter. Ed Chauncey, '49, who has been examining the boxes of school records found these in a cadet's folder. He and his wife, Bobbie, plus Chuck Pine, '49, and his wife, Jean, were going through a box of school records when they came across these snapshots.



A TRIBUTE AT NORMANDY - AMA leaders paid tribute to the three Augusta alumni who died in the World War II Battle of Normandy. Here they are in the American Military Cemetery in Normandy at the grave of LTC Hubert Mathews, '29, the highest ranking officer in the 1st Division to die on D-Day. Left to right, former President Garry Granger, '71, *Bayonet* Editor Bob Bradford, '50, AMA Foundation Chairman Frank Williamson, '60, and 2010 Reunion Chairman Luke Snyder, '60. The quartet also visited the grave of 1LT James McClatchey, '38, who was killed near St. Mere Eglise on 20 June 1944 and the Wall of the Missing which has engraved thereon the name of Sergeant Claude Bradley, '43, whose body was never found. Below, at lunch in a French cafe. L. to r., Anne and Luke Snyder, Becky and Garry Granger, Frank and Bev Williamson and Bob Bradford..



PARTY TIME - Actually it's a breakfast expertly prepared by Joyce Zinkhan and served to AMA volunteers and friends. Ben, '60, and Joyce do so much to keep our museum unsullied. Thanks to them both from all AMA friends!

THINGS YOU CAN'T DO ANYTHING ABOUT:

The stone after it is thrown,
The word after it is spoken,
The occasion after it is over,
The time after it is gone.

The bottom line: think before you act, don't miss the reunion because time will keep marching on and that friend won't be around any more.



DON'S CORNER - When Don Studer left on his cross country safari, the volunteers at the museum created "Don's Corner" to honor him for all he did to make the AMA Museum such a success. There are *Bayonet* stories, his AMA Alumni Medal and the eagle presented to him for his dedication and devotion to AMA.



UNUSUAL SHOT - This is the second floor hallway at the AMA Alumni House/Museum. The walls are lined with tributes to AMA Alumni Medal recipients, lovingly matted and framed by Jerry Wildman, '57. At the end of the hall on the right is the office where Crysta Stephenson and volunteers run the place. The photo was taken by Victor Gomez, '69.



FLYBOYS - 1961 Classmates Dick Connor and Peter Madley are shown at the successful conclusion of Dick's recurrent certification in the Dassault Falcon 7X. Peter was co-pilot for the check ride. Dick is Senior Check Airman/Examiner at CAE Simuflite in Parsippany, NJ and Peter is a Certified Flight Instructor at American Flyers in Morristown, NJ.

AMA honored for its support of Blue Ridge CC scholarships

The Augusta Military Academy Alumni Association was honored at a luncheon at the Blue Ridge Community College in the Robert E. Plecker Workforce Center, named for **Robert Plecker**, '40.

Through a grant from the estate of Jeanne Morrisette Ramsey, wife of **Clyde Ramsey**, '49, ten Augusta County students at BRCC received scholarship help from AMA this year. They are Ashley Aldhizer of Mount Sidney, Taylor Coyner of Waynesboro, Steven Craun of Mount Solon, Benjamin Keaton of Staunton, William Oliver of Crimora, Katie Propst of Staunton, Jesse Robinson of Swoope, Angela Strickler of Craigsville, Joshua Wheeler of Waynesboro and Catherine Wright of Crimora.

Ramsey provides the funds which are administered by the AMA Alumni Association and selected by BRCC. The college is located at Weyers Cave, just a few miles north of AMA on Route 11.

New dates for 2010 reunion

The 2010 AMA Alumni Reunion will be held on the weekend of 22-24 April, a week earlier than usual. The change was made necessary by a commitment made by the owners of the AMA property. Write down the new dates: 22-24 April 2010.

Cumberland, MD will honor all World War II vets in November

Cumberland, Maryland will honor "the greatest generation" and their sacrifices November 6-15 with living history displays, big bands and a B-25 fly-in to the Cumberland Airport. For a complete schedule of events, visit: www.cumberlandgoestowar.com

Now is the time for all good cadets to come to the aid of their school

Just a reminder that we really do need YOUR help. Only \$2.73 a day will bring us \$1,000 a year. Surely, we can all spare that much to save what we have created at Fort Defiance.

AMA Sports Hall of Fame 2010 nominations must be received by early January

For the third consecutive year, nominations are being sought for the Augusta Military Academy Sports Hall of Fame. New members will be inducted during Reunion 2010 next April. The deadline for receiving nominations at the AMA Alumni House/Museum is 4 January 2010. An eleven judge panel will choose who goes into the Hall next year.

Twenty seven former cadets, coaches and faculty members were inducted in the past two years with 19 going into the Hall in its first year. More than 100 nominations were received in the first two years. The first person to be inducted was **General Charles S. Roller, Jr.** who exemplified sports at AMA from 1897 until his death in 1963.

Nominations are being sought for every sport ever played at AMA: baseball, basketball, boxing, cavalry, cross country, fencing, football, golf, lacrosse, rifle, rugby, soccer, swimming, tennis, track and field and wrestling. Some of the previous Hall of Famers earned glory while a cadet or coach at Augusta. Other achieved fame in college or in the pros, or in sports journalism.

Those elected to the Sports Hall of Fame to date are, in alphabetical order:

Andre Allen, '76, basketball
Ben Angle, '51, lacrosse and track
John Bell, '54, swimming
Wayne Blaylock, '62, football, basketball, track
Henley Carter, '65, football, baseball
Ernest Click, '48, swimming
Bill Deuber, '49, football and baseball
Nick Forkovitch, '41, football *
Jay Fox, '53, swimming
Bob Gorgant, '63, basketball
Morris Guerrant, '42, boxing *
Dean Hanson, '63, rifle
Colonel Paul Hoover *
Bill Hummer, '71, rifle
Jerry Izenberg, '48, sports writer
Don Johns, '49, football
Sergeant Joe Josephson, football, basketball
Pete Lampman, '65, basketball
Dick Nolan, '50, football *
Frank Pilley, '51, tennis *
General Charles S. Roller, Jr. *
Julian Quarles, '35, boxing
Jim Stillwagon, '67, football
Sergeant Don Studer, rifle
Dr. Meb Turner, '49, wrestling
Burgess Whitehead, '27, baseball *
Al Zayas, '72, lacrosse

* Deceased

**NOMINATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED
 AT THE AMA ALUMNI/HOUSE MUSEUM
 NO LATER THAN MONDAY 4 JANUARY 2010**

By FAX: 540/248-4533

E-mail: AMAAlumniHouse@aol.com

By mail: Hall, P. O. Box 100, Fort Defiance, VA 24437

Nominate your choice or choices today!

Judges for the 2010 SHOF

A panel of eleven judges will consider the nominations to the 2010 AMA Sports Hall of Fame. Their decisions will be announced in the first *Bayonet* of 2010 and those selected will be inducted into the Hall of Fame at the Saturday noon luncheon during Reunion 2010.

The 2010 judges are: **Doug Carter, '72, Ed Click, '50, Cecil DePriest, '43, Sergeant Joe Josephson, Colonel Mal Livick, Chris Meek, '84, Julian Quarles, '35, Bobby Rhea, '47, Nicky Syropoulos, '69, Brett Thompson, '75, and Frank Williamson, '60.**

Once again, nominations must be RECEIVED no later than 4 January 2010 so the judges will have adequate time to make their decisions.



VMI Keydets make annual trek

A cadre of tired VMI cadets trudged onto the AMA Post in September on their 82 mile trek from Lexington to New Market to commemorate the 1864 forced march of a VMI contingent to take part in the Civil War Battle at New Market. **Joyce (Mrs. Ben) Zinkhan, '60, and Ida (Mrs. Frank) Spencer, '49,** prepared a feast for the boys to enjoy while they took a brief break.





WEDDING BELLS - The daughter of Bud Oakey, '70, Dorothy Marie Oakey, recently wed Paul Kelly in Roanoke. She is an employee of the Valley Bank in Roanoke and he manages Play It Again Sports in Roanoke.

On line newsletter for local community

Alumni Association President **Jorge Rovirosa**, '70, has announced the monthly publication of an on line newsletter aimed at the local Augusta County community, a newsletter which will report current AMA events and highlight AMA Museum news.

The newsletter will be edited by **Crysta Stephenson**, the museum administrator. Says Rovirosa, "We have the only secondary military school in the nation housing artifacts back to 1860. We do so many good things in our community and the newsletter will be a way to let our neighbors know about our programs and special events."

Carlos Lacayo, '70, trying to find "lost" Augusta alumni in Central America

For years, the alumni association has looked for long lost cadets who came to Augusta from Costa Rica, Honduras, Nicaragua and Guatemala. Now, **Carlos Lacayo**, '70, is embarked on a plan to locate some of these amigos.

He is running ads in the newspapers of these four countries asking that those who attended AMA should get in touch with Alumni President **Jorge Rovirosa**, '70, and give Jorge information about their addresses and what they have been doing since leaving AMA.

If any reader knows of someone who might be in this category, please have them contact Jorge at his business e-mail address: Jorovi@farovi.com

Scott Green's son is on AMA stipend at Missouri Military

Jefferson Green is now at Missouri Military Academy with assistance from the special AMA Scholarship at the school.

Jefferson is the son of **Scott Green**, '63, and entered MMA as a sophomore. Scott says that, "MMA was very supportive of us during the decision and application process. Jefferson received a \$5,000 grant and we are very grateful for the work the AMA Alumni Association did in setting up this program."

With the enthusiastic assistance of MMA alumnus **Chuck Foley**, '54, the MMA/AMA Scholarship was created two years ago. Sons, grandsons and great-grandsons of AMA alumni may apply for a \$5,000 stipend. More than one AMA legacy boy can accept these funds and attend MMA at the same time as other MMA/AMA scholarship recipients.

Scott says that he is enthusiastic about having Jefferson at MMA. "If any of our AMA brothers want information and feedback about this great scholarship program, I will be glad to help." E-mail Scott at oldhippi@earthlink.net.

The first young man to take advantage of the MMA/AMA Scholarship was Matt Mitchell, son of **Jim Mitchell**, '76.

Missouri Military Academy is a college prep school for boys grades 6-12 and PG and has a 120 year tradition of turning out sparkling alumni. The school is located in Mexico, Missouri, about 90 minutes from St. Louis and just 30 minutes from the University of Missouri.

Shenandoah Valley Radio features AMA Museum

The weekly Shenandoah Valley Radio® podcast in mid-July featured photos in and of the AMA Museum and an interview with **Ben Zinkhan**, '60, a faithful museum volunteer. The podcast is the home page of ShenandoahValley.com which highlights the historical and cultural attractions in the Valley. It is the first time that the AMA Museum has been featured.

The interview ran for five weeks and is still available as a place to download an MP3 of the program. The interview was also broadcast twice on WSVG-AM 790 in Mount Jackson.

Hank Zimmerman, owner and publisher of ShenandoahValley.com said he hoped that the interview will raise public awareness about the museum, truly one of the gems of the Shenandoah Valley!



ALL AMERICAN - At right is **Malcolm Andrews**, the grandson in law of Hilton Roller Grasty, an American Airlines pilot and at left is **Tom DelValle**, '73, Senior Vice President of American. Malcolm had Tom on his flight from Dallas to Dulles recently and they found some time to talk about AMA. Tom gave Malcolm's daughter a Roller Rifles coin.

Augusta social event held in Richmond

As we went to press, an AMA social event was scheduled to take place in Richmond on Saturday 24 October.

Bud Oakey, '70, invited not only AMA alumni from the capital area but friends from VMI, the Citadel, Fishburne, Riverside, SMA and Fork Union. It is part of a program to bring like minded people together for the mutual good.

Ramsey would fund an ROTC intern from Mary Baldwin College

It may surprise some of you to know that Mary Baldwin College has an ROTC program. They do and in fact they provided a Color Guard for AMA's Founder's Day a few years back.

Clyde Ramsey, '49, thinks it would be a good idea for the AMA Museum to have an intern from Mary Baldwin who is a senior and is enrolled in the MBC ROTC program. In Clyde's plan, the senior student would spend part of her final year as an intern at our museum.

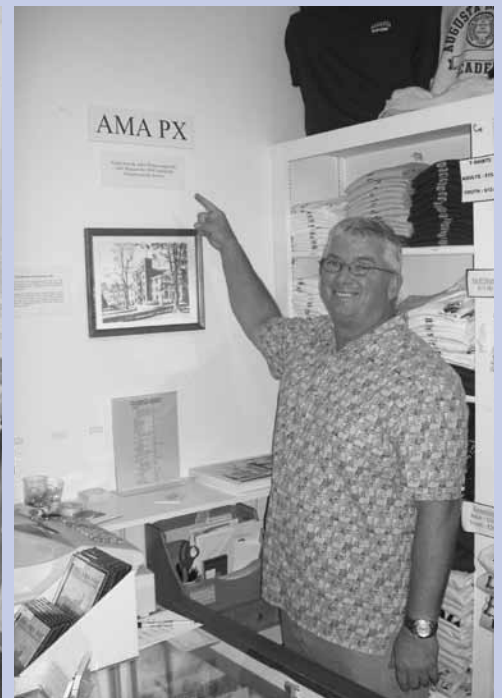
He has put up \$1,500 to fund the program for five years. In the event MBC cannot provide an intern in any year, \$300 would go to the Mary Baldwin ROTC program from the AMA Alumni Foundation.

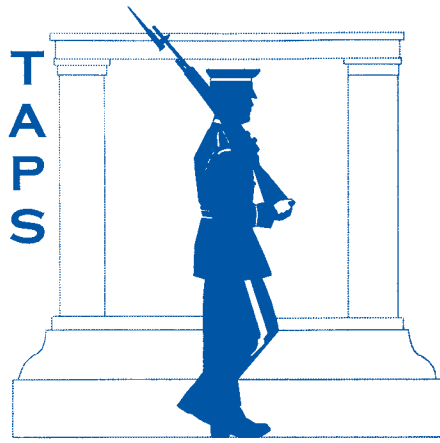
PayPal is being considered as a way to pay for reunion registrations, PX items and donations to the AMA Alumni Foundation. Keep your eye on our website for details at: www.AMAAlumni.org



Museum Visitors

Top, left, Jeff Byer, '70, and his wife. He was in Band Company. Top, center, Jim Hunter, '72, and his good looking kids from Rocky Mount, NC. Top, right, Joan and Vic Muncy, '47, from Bradenton, FL. Directly above, Julius Boles, '83. He attended the 4th through 7th grades at AMA. Center, Tom DelValle, '73, in the AMA PX when he came from Texas to cover a shift at the museum. Center, right, Clarence Reynolds, '66, from Homosassa, FL. Bottom, center, John Sheehy, '73, and his happy family members. Bottom, right, Doug Pennock, '72, came all the way from Puerto Rico to volunteer at our museum.





Please report deaths and illnesses of AMA alumni, faculty and friends to The AMA Chaplain Frank Spencer, '49
506 Old Charleston Road
Waynesboro, VA 22980
540/943-2633
frankspencer53@gmail.com

Earnest Williams, III, '34

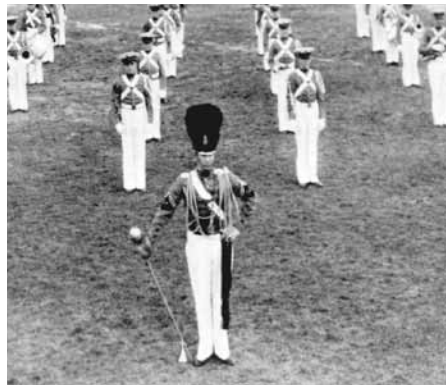
2007. No details available. At AMA: Peep football, Tiger basketball, intramural wrestling and boxing, track, Honor Roll.

Rodney Marshall Coggin, '39

6 September 2009, in Warsaw, VA, 88. Retired publisher in Virginia's Northern Neck. Editor and publisher of weekly Northern Neck News for 43 years having purchased it from his grandfather in 1949. College of William and Mary. 4th Marine Air Wing in World War II as a dive bomber pilot stationed in Samoa, Wallis, FunaFuti, Eniwetok and Kwajalein in the Central Pacific. Naval Flight instructor and Chief of Flight in Squadron 13C in Corpus Christi and gained great notoriety for precision flying in civilian life. Survived by his wife, Mary Ann of Warsaw; three children, Rodney and Turner Coggin of Richmond and Rebecca Coggin Hubert of Warsaw; seven grandchildren. At AMA: Honor Roll, Peep football, Company B. Reported by **George St. Clair, '49**, **Jay Fox, '53**, and **Lew Muddin, '53**.

Lucius H. Stephenson, '39

5 October 2009, University of Virginia Medical Center, 90. He was Linda Roller Livick's cousin and the new



Luke Stephenson, '39, was the Drum Major in 1938-39.

AMA Museum Administrator Crysta Stephenson's great uncle. Served in the Army during World War II after which he stayed in the USAR for 33 years. Attended Davis and Elkins College and received his law degree from the University of Richmond. He was an attorney for the Veterans Administration for 26 years. Held a pilot's license before the war and tested new aircraft, ferried and taught air cadets. Luke appeared in THE AMA WAY, the video presentation detailing life at AMA. Just after the war, he had a famous boxing match with Max Schmeling, the World Heavyweight Champion in the early 1930's until dethroned by Joe Louis. Member, Society of the Cincinnati. Survived by his wife of 42 years, Blanca P. Stephenson of Monterey; a daughter Harriet Stephenson Titcomb of Fernandina Beach, FL; two sons, Lucius III of Salisbury, NC and Charles of Chesapeake, VA; a sister, Louise McKee of Sarasota, FL; a brother, Boyd of Monterey; three step-sons, Harry McClurg of Richmond, James McClurg of Mount Pleasant, SC, and Roger McClurg of Newark, DE; ten grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. At AMA: Drum major, boxing, track, Monogram Club.

Charles Stringfellow, '47

August 2007, after a long illness. He came to AMA to finish high school after serving in World War Two, one of several GIs who came to AMA after having served in the war. Owned the Island Art Company and Art Image in Beaufort, SC. At AMA: played varsity football.

Jay Leslie Levinson, '47

9 January 2007, of cancer. At AMA: Band, JV baseball.



Jay Levinson, 1947 Recall

Lauren "Buck" Handy, Jr., '50

14 September 2009 in Winter Park, FL, 79. University of Miami, Hampden-Sydney and the University of Tampa. Crew and football teams at Miami. Employee relations and personnel manager and adjunct college professor. Was associated with Jordan Marsh Stores and the Orlando



"Buck" Handy, 1950 Recall

Sentinel. Army, Corps of Engineers, construction officer in Toul, France. President, Central Florida Personnel Association. Survived by his sons, Lauren Handy, III of Largo, FL, and Thomas Handy of Holland, MI; a daughter, Peyton Lea Logeman of Easton, MD; a sister, Margaret Peyton Parker of Danville, VA; and two grandchildren, Taylor and Carly Logeman. At AMA: varsity football, Headquarters Company.

Ulisses Silva, '53

Passed away in Miami in 1980.

Joseph Erskine Furr, '53

28 June 2009, at the Greenbrier Valley Medical Center. Attended both AMA and Greenbrier Military Academies. The founder of Joe Furr Livestock, he was one of the most successful cattle dealers on the East Coast. Received the National Livestock Dealers Association Outstanding Service Award in 1974 at ceremonies in Long Beach, CA. Survived by two daughters, Lucinda Caldwell and Angela Furr, and two sons, Joshua Furr and Jeremiah Furr. At AMA: Day boy; football.

Sam Lambert, '59

21 August 2009, Rockingham Memorial Hospital, Harrisonburg, 68. Attended

Naval Academy History Professor Dr. DeCredico joins Foundation Board

Dr. Mary DeCredico, Professor of history at the United States Naval Academy, has been elected as the first outside trustee of the AMA Alumni Foundation.

In making the announcement, Alumni Foundation Chairman Frank Williamson, '60, said, "We are honored and flattered that Dr. Mary has agreed to become a trustee. Her very broad based knowledge and respect for military tradition makes her the ideal selection as our first non-alumnus trustee. She brings a wealth of experience and a deep love for AMA and its traditions."

Dr. DeCredico was the main speaker at the 2004 AMA Reunion at a time when she was head of the Naval Academy History Department and Vice Academic Dean. Soon after, she accepted the position as Provost at Bucknell where she earned her undergraduate degree. After three years, she returned to the Naval Academy as a history professor "and I have never been happier." She is on the USNA Admissions Board and Chairs the NCAA Committee.

Dr. DeCredico earned her PhD at Vanderbilt. In accepting the appointment, she said that she is much impressed with the loyalty of Augusta's alumni. "The school is gone but there you are having annual reunions, renewing old friendships, savoring your time back on the AMA Post and contributing to AMA's legacy."

In her 2004 remarks, she said that "some might view this commitment as extraordinary, but when you survey the proud heritage of AMA, it is not. The values that inspired **Professor Roller** to establish the school have resonated through the years. Indeed, the lessons you learned, the camaraderie you shared and the service you have given to your state and to your country are a lasting legacy." An expert in Southern History, Dr.

DeCredico says that military training is "deeply ingrained in Southern culture. The discipline and respect for order is what produced so many military preparatory schools in the South. We still get superior students from the schools still operating in Virginia and other Southern states."

She says that she is impressed that "whether an AMA alumnus was in school for years for months, it made a big difference in his life. The positive experience that every AMA alumnus had and the commitment they demonstrate remain shining examples for this age of uncertainty."

Dr. Mary has invited the AMA Foundation Board of Trustees and the AMA Alumni Association Board of Directors to have their 22-23 January 2010 meetings at the Naval Academy Officer's Club.



ALL NAVY - Dr. DeCredico, second from left, was the featured speaker at Reunion 2004. Shown with her are Bob White, '60, and Millie and Bill McVey, '60, all Navy folks.

Blue Ridge Community College. Part owner of a restaurant. Survived by his mother, Janet Ritchie Lambert of Harrisonburg; his wife, Lynn Grattan Lambert also of Harrisonburg; one son, Sammy, of Penn Laird, VA; one daughter, Samantha Garguilo of Blacksburg, one brother, Jeff, of Freeland, MD, one sister, Joyce Graves of Harrisonburg, and two granddaughters, Gwyna Kika and Bayla Wrigley Lambert. At AMA: Band Company.



Sam Lambert, 1959 Recall

John W. "Jack" Bridges, '60
June 2009, cancer, at Chantilly, VA. At AMA: 1st lieutenant, D Company; Roller Rifles; Honor Committee; Cotillion Club.



Jack Bridges, 1960 Recall

Donnie Ray Tabor, '60
3 July 2009. He attended both Wake Forest and Randolph Macon. Saw service in the U.S. Army. He was a self employed manufacturer's representative for Graybar Electric Company. Owned and operated the White Way Lunch in Churchville, VA. Avid golfer and devoted member of Alcoholics Anonymous. Survived by his wife, Patricia Tabor of Charlotte, NC, and two sons, Charles "Chuck" Tabor and Ronald Neal Tabor, a stepson Bryan Patrick Fink, a stepdaughter Julie Fink Dawson, and six step-grandchildren. At AMA: played varsity football and varsity basketball.



Donnie Ray Tabor, 1960 Recall

Omar Amin Abdallah, '67
7 July 2009, at the University of Virginia Medical Center, Charlottesville, 67. He attended AMA for 14 years, possibly the longest time anyone was an AMA cadet. At AMA: Day student; Band Company; lieutenant; astronomy, photography.

Fred Lapish, '70
March 2000, heart attack, about age 50. East Carolina University. An UPS employee in Charlotte, NC for many years. At AMA: B Company, basketball.



Omar Amin Abdallah, 1967 Recall

Please make it a point to let our Chaplain Frank Spencer, '49, know when an alumnus, faculty member or AMA friend is ill or has passed on. Sometimes, we don't hear for many months after someone has died. Frank's e-mail is: FrankSpencer53@gmail.com. Let him hear from you so he can express condolences to the families.



Fred Lapish, 1970 Recall



A DAY AT THE BEACH - Luke Snyder and Anne plus John Atkinson and Judy visited Frank Williamson and Bev at the Williamson's Virginia Beach house. All three are from the Class of 1960. John Atkinson was the Treasurer of Virginia Beach for 31 years. John and Luke were roommates for one year at AMA.



INVADING NEW ENGLAND - Bill Mc Vey, '60, and Millie made their first trip ever to New England and while there visited with two AMA alumni. Top, on the left is Buzzy Coulon '59 (the smartest guy in his class, says Bill). McVey is shown holding Coulon's older grandson. The Coulons live in Hingham, MA and West Palm Beach. Below, Bill with Dave Trimble, '60, and Dave's wife, Betsy, on Goose Rocks Beach. Trimble lives in Richmond but is moving to Jaffrey, NH. He was an instructor and football coach at AMA after having gone to college in New Hampshire.

Bob Spilman, '45, ran Bassett Furniture well

Robert H. Spilman, '45, is the retired President, Chairman and CEO of Bassett Furniture Industries. After AMA, he attended Davidson College and later received a BS from North Carolina State.

Spilman began his career at Cannon Mills before he joined Bassett where he established a powerful sales and marketing organization, produced exceptional products and worked closely with all the U.S. major retailers to satisfy their customers. He rose rapidly through the executive ranks at Bassett becoming CEO in the 1970s and remaining at the helm into the '90s.

Spilman led one of the furniture industry's most successful and profitable businesses in a period of dramatic change – the growth of warehouse showrooms, captive distribution, and increasing imports. Under his leadership, Bassett became a full line manufacturer by adding recliners, home office, bedding and youth and infant furniture departments.

At AMA, Bob played Peep football, ran JV track, was on the B Company football team and he is a member of The Roller Society. He lives in Manakin Sabot, VA.



Buckmaster remembered his Augusta cadet days

Bob Buckmaster, '48, passed away in 2006. The year before, he listed some of his favorite memories of his days at AMA.

I can't remember a single cadet or faculty member at AMA who I did not like. While I loved them both, **Major Roller** and **Major Hoover** were the two who would strike fear in you occasionally. I remember Major Hoover teaching Spanish class by standing behind you with a broken fencing foil and whacking your butt when you couldn't conjugate a verb.

When there were snowstorms, I would drive around the school with **Paul Bratton, '48**, in an Army truck or jeep with a snowplow

on it. Paul was a great fellow and ended up being first Captain his senior year.

I recall the skunk in the courtyard in the middle of one night. Some of the cadets had frightened the critter until he sprayed the place. One time, a skunk got into one of the window wells in front of Big Barracks and **Sergeant Michael** supervised his demise by running a hose from his tailpipe into the window well and putting the little stinker to sleep – for good!

We could go skunk hunting under the Mess Hall if we had Major Roller's permission first. We could only use a bow and arrow and the idea was to have a flashlight which would freeze the polecat in his tracks. The worst possible result would have been to wound the animal and have it stink up the Mess Hall.

I worked in the Armory with **Charlie Fowler**, **George Maust** and **Fred Shappee** when we converted from the 1903 Springfield to
(concluded on page 46)

Jerry Izenberg, '48, assembles his marvelous columns over 58 years in a "must have" book

Jerry Izenberg, '48, has covered about every sporting event of consequence over the past 58 years. This by a fellow who was inspired by the late Colonel Glenn Koogler to consider a career as a high school English teacher.

Jerry has been a sports reporter and a sports columnist for the Newark Star-Ledger since Moses was a teenager. He has taken his columns and put them in a book *Through My Eyes* with a foreword from Bill Parcells who said that Jerry is a "throwback... a legacy of days when journalism was more about accuracy than sensationalism."

Jerry has covered every Super Bowl, the Olympics, the Kentucky Derby, the Irish Derby, England's Epsom Derby and the French Prix D'Amérique. He has covered cricket matches in Bermuda, the rodeo in Wyoming, the Indy 500 and shark hunting in the Bahamas. He covered the World Series and hundreds of championship fights. He saw Roger Maris hit home run number 61, Mark McGwire hit number 62, Hank Aaron hit number 715, Pete Rose reach 4,192 hits and Cal Ripken, Junior's 2,131st straight game. He felt the throb of African drums the night Ali became "king of the world" and he was in Joe Louis' living room when the great boxer died.

Now comes his 222 page soft cover journal covering his amazing 58 years as a sports columnist, a career that continues into his retirement life in Henderson, Nevada, just outside Las Vegas. "I will still do an occasional column when the spirit moves me," he says.

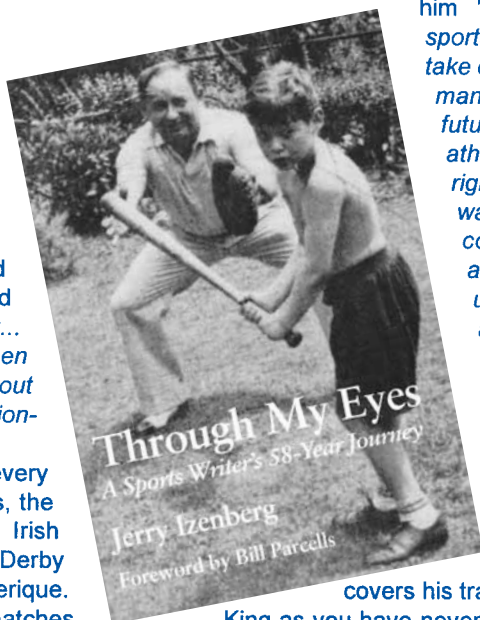
His book commences with memories of his father who "loved baseball until the day he died, a game to which he committed his heart on the first day of school in a new country." Jerry's father was seven when his family left the anti-Semitism of Eastern Europe and came to America. When his father stroked a home run in his first school recess game, "he became an American." His Dad would sit on their front steps "on soft, summer nights with his battered old Philco radio hooked up by a long extension cord and tuned to the sounds of a Giants game

from the Polo Grounds." Thus was Jerry drawn to the game.

Jerry Izenberg has respect for the game no matter

what sport he is writing about. Bill Bradley calls him "a conscience of sports never afraid to take on tough subjects, many affecting the future of student athletes... Never self-righteous, but always teaching, his columns explain and convince. His use of language is as much an education as is the subject of each column."

Colonel Koogler would be very proud! Jerry's new book, his tenth,



covers his travels with Ali, Don King as you have never seen him before, the idiosyncrasies of those in horse racing and his experience when an earthquake stopped the 1989 World Series between the Giants and Oakland. And he writes about what he calls "Quiet heroes" – old guys playing a young man's game and playing it well, a fighter with a heart, and Harry Izenberg, his father, and his sister, Lois, who "taught me how to live... and taught me how to die."

You don't have to be a sports fan to love Jerry's book. He uses words like a skilled surgeon uses a scalpel peeling back misleading adjectives that conceal the truth beneath. He writes like Jimmy Breslin, hard charging and looking for the always elusive facts. He is a marvelous story teller and his book is brimming with wonderful accounts of real life experiences, not all directly related to sports such as his colorful descriptions of Las Vegas' history or his 14 page treatise on gambling in America.

Jerry Izenberg has inscribed a copy of his book which is now in the literature section of the AMA Museum. The book is available from Amazon.com and Barnes and Noble. To read this book is to thank God once more for the salutary effect an AMA education had on its recipients. We are all very proud that Jerry Izenberg is an Augusta man.



Aileen and Jerry on their wedding day, 6 August 1983.



Jerry preaching baseball to a pregame crowd, truly preaching to the choir! Below, at the Pacific Stars and Stripes.



*Just after the 2009 reunion ended, **Don Studer** told the AMA leadership that he was going to start travelling full time and would no longer be one of the "Faithful Four" at the museum. We regret seeing him leave but have followed his travels through the West with great interest. As we were going to press, he was in Zion National Park headed who knows where.*

My Journey

My name is Don Studer and this is my story.

I grew up in Chicago and enlisted in the Marines just after my 18th birthday. After my tour was up, I bummed around for some three years and then enlisted in the Army. In 1969, I was assigned to the Junior ROTC unit at Augusta Military Academy. Later, I returned to Augusta for another tour and after I retired I again went to AMA, this time as Assistant Commandant.

Sometime in the mid 1960s, I started to think about travelling around the United States and in the 1970s I even started to sketch the inside layout of my dream Class C motor home.

One thing led to another and time marched on. I somehow learned to spell PRO-CRATES and then did until 2008 rolled around. Then some things happened that made me remember what I had always wanted to do and I finally got started making plans. I read, studied and asked questions about what I was planning, keeping the plans mostly to myself. Only my family and three close friends shared my dream.

By January of this year, I had purchased a new car to tow and a Class C RV which is very much like my 1970's sketch. I made plans to move out of my home which turned out to be a much bigger task than I had imagined. I had to separate that which I would get rid of, what went in storage and what to take with me since I was not going to have a permanent home base.

During the last days of the 2009 AMA reunion, I finally

told the officers of the association and the foundation of my plans to start travelling full time. The reason for this delay was that I didn't want any fuss made because of my decision to leave.

On 16 May, I left AMA and started what was to be a quick trip across the U.S. to see some friends and relatives in Dallas, Houston and Las Vegas. I arrived in

Snohomish, Washington on 3 June. Snohomish is where my sister (Kel) and niece (Tina) live. I stayed there until 16 June and then I was off!

The plan was to go to an area, set up camp in the RV and then travel by car to any and all POIs (points of interest) in a 100 mile radius.

My first stop was the Howard Miller State Park in Rockport, WA for two nights. From there, I visited the towns of Concrete, Sedro Wooley and Marble Mount as well as driving to the Baker Lake area and the

Cascades Pass. In Sedro Wooley, I took the opportunity to visit the first of many museums and slide presentations in Marble Mount which were highlights of this stop.

Since that first stop, I have travelled extensively in Washington State, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Nevada and I am now heading south for the Winter. Being retired with no responsibilities, no

place that I have to be and only a schedule that I set is a perfect life style but there is one problem I did not foresee.

If I took a vacation, how would I know?

I will be coming to a town near you and if you wish to be notified so you can leave town, I can be reached at: DonaldStuder@aol.com.



IN QUIET REFLECTION, Don Studer inhales the crisp air at Crater Lake National Park on his odyssey through the American West. Below, ask Don where he found a mastadon skeleton!



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t's not that I am afraid to die. I just don't want to be there when it happens.

That quote is by Woody Allen, and there's more truth than jest in what he said. But you know what? We are all going to have that experience one of these days, and you want to be sure that your family knows exactly what your wishes are at a time like that.

One thing you'll want to think about is your will and any bequests you'll want to make. If your family knows which charities and non-profits you want to remember, it will make it easier for them.

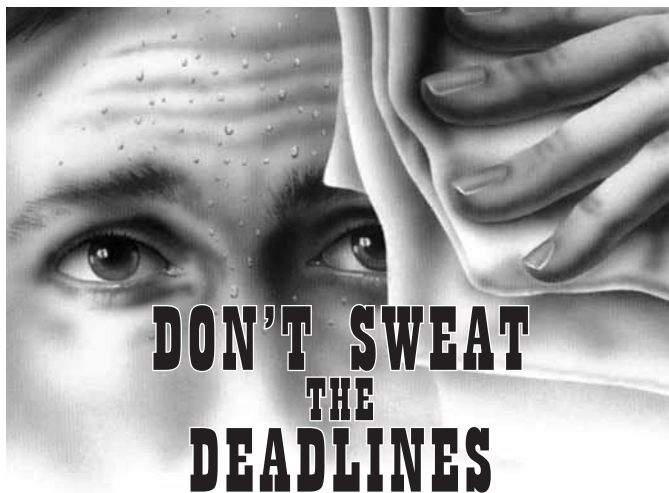
We hope you will consider the AMA Foundation when you are making those decisions. The Foundation is the non-profit side of our AMA alumni efforts and supports our scholarship programs, the Alumni House/Museum, and The Bayonet.

If you'll let us know that you have made a commitment to leave something to AMA when you are no longer here, we'll enroll you in

The Roller Society

Think about it, and let us know if we can be helpful to you in making your decisions.

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The Roller Society

The Roller Society honors those who give to the AMA Alumni Foundation after their lifetimes. It is on the shoulders of these dedicated heroes that AMA's future will be built. Funding the AMA and VMI Scholarships, Maintaining and improving our AMA Museum and supporting the printing and mailing of The Bayonet.

The Roller Society logo, left, infers that your gift will keep on giving, echoing over the years, enabling us to repeatedly fund the programs that define who we are, assuring that your name will be remembered long after you are gone.

Members of the Roller Society as of 14 October 2009

NEW MEMBERS

Mark Femrite, `72

Dolores H. Toombs

ACTIVE

Colonel Mal Livick

Linda Roller Livick

Noelle Nicholson

Tina Shafer

Donald Studer

Tom Roller, `36

Dr. Mel Alper, `39

Frank Shultz, `41

Angus Hines, `42

Tex Mahone, `42

Robert Spilman, `45

Dr. Edward Leventen, `46

Bobby Rhea, `47

Ernest Click, `48

Bill Harris, `48

Hal Walters, `48

Ed Chauncey, `49

Jim Council, `49

Clyde Ramsey, `49

Ambassador John Shirley, `49

Frank Spencer, `49

Ida Spencer

Bob Bradford, `50

Nancy Bradford

Tommy Clements, `50

Ed Click, `50

Jim Starnes, `50

Richard Young, `50

Rod Willey, `51

Roger Messick, `52

Tommy Mitchell, `52

Tommy Simmons, `53

John Bell, `54

Bob Harris, `54

Goodloe Saunders, `57

Duke Fancher, `58

Dave Conrad, `59

Elliott Ridge, `59

George Holt, `60

Bill McVey, `60

Luke Snyder, `60

Frank Williamson, `60

Beverly Williamson

Ben Zinkhan, `60

Andrew Campbell, `61

Mac Coirer, `62

Rob Overly, `62

Ray Sanchez, `63

Greg Pearce, `65

John Botcheller, `67

Nancy Botcheller

Steve Matton, `67

Mac McInnis, `67

Jeff Schroeder, `67

Rick Smail, `67

Gordon Metz, `68

Victor Gomez, `69

John Henderson, `69

Charles Pascale, `69

Nick Syropoulos, `69

Scott Travers, `70

Steve Trent, `70

Garry Granger, `71

Willis Walker, `71

Lewie Kennett, `72

Doug Penmook, `72

P. J. Thomson, `72

Al Zayas, `72

Tom DelValle, `73

Gary Gertz, `75

Chris Meek, `84

DECEASED

Hilton Roller Grasty

Dolores H. Toombs

Jeanne (Mrs. Clyde, `49)
Ramsey

Joseph Salicrup, `31

Mickey Gordon, `39

Jack Jansing, `43

Herb McCawley, `43

Carroll Knicely, `46

Paul Bratton, `48

Dr. H. D. "Buddy" Deane, `48

Dr. John Morris, `49

Terry Snow, `58

Gary Nicholson, `70

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Do you have a will? Have you thought about assuring that your family is taken care of when you are no longer there for them?

As you make those plans, please think about doing what you can to see that the AMA Legacy continues after your death. You can do that by signing up for the Roller Society. Just contact us at 540/248-3007, at P. O. Box 100, Fort Defiance, VA 24437-0100 or by e-mail : AMAAlumniHouse@aol.com

Up a tree with Larry and Jim; a "beery" good time

Many of you from my era at Augusta will remember **Larry Dessyn**. For the couple years that he attended school at AMA, he and I were inseparable. While we were joined at the hip by music, our bond was much greater than any singular common interest. It was chemistry; we were just drawn to each other. But strangely, we had a lot of differences.

To say that I felt sorry for Larry would not be entirely untrue. Larry had a major problem; he hated Augusta Military Academy. And when I use the term "hated," I'm not using it in any superfluous or frivolous fashion. Larry truly loathed each and every day that he was there. I can't even imagine waking up miserable and knowing that is the best I can expect to feel for the rest of the day, and that the next day will be a carbon copy. For Larry, it must have been his own little personal Kiwi and Basso hell. Unlike Larry, I (like most of us) had the occasional bad day about once a month and maybe a loathsome one every six months or so. But all in all, I liked Augusta, more for the people than the regimentation, but even that became so routine that I didn't give it much thought.

Larry, on the other hand, was a true child of the sixties. There was absolutely nothing about him that was compatible to daily life at Augusta Military Academy. He was the proverbial flower child, a rock and roll baby who clung to his guitar like a drowning man to a life line. And that's what drew us together initially. If the truth were known, Larry's musical talent dwarfed mine by orders of magnitude and I always felt privileged that he wanted to spend time playing music with me. Musically speaking, I learned a lot from Larry and will always be grateful for the time we shared. Music and Stuart Hall were my two primary focuses. If I wasn't pursuing one, I was pursuing the other. But sometimes you just need a break. For better or worse, Larry and I decided to have a little R and R.



As a cadet, acquisition of adult beverages was an art form. And the penalty for failure could be as bad as the penalty for success. That is, you could get in just as much trouble trying to get your hands on contraband as you could being caught with it in your possession. Being both underage and in cadet uniform fairly precluded any possibility of just walking in a local business and nonchalantly purchasing whatever you want. No, this required the recruitment of a third party into the conspiracy. And that's where it got tricky. Soliciting someone to perform an illegal act is risky business and approaching a potential conspirator required an on the spot assessment of the individual. There were a lot of questions that needed consideration, such as: Did the person have any relationship to the school? For instance, were they good friends or relatives of the **Livicks** or some other staff or faculty member? Might the individual be an off duty police officer? Was the person just one of the locals that had an intense dislike for cadets in general and wouldn't hesitate to cause them grief? Could the person be a serial ax murderer who might plot one's demise?

These were serious questions that demanded audience and they were also questions to which you weren't likely to know the answer until after the damage was done. What it all came down to is gut instinct. There was also a fundamental profile that needed to be examined. You needed to find someone who was of legal age but not too old; the younger the better as they tended

to be more sympathetic to your situation. Anyone over thirty five and you were walking on thin ice. Also, women were disqualified outright because they don't tend to be risk takers. So right from the start you've lost fifty percent of the available population. The poorer a person appeared was helpful because that left them more susceptible to a monetary incentive, although neither Larry nor I had much in the way of bribe money. And lastly, you wanted someone who just looked happy. You know, someone who walks around alone with a half smile on their face. You definitely wanted to avoid those who looked grouchy, someone who might be going

through life with a clothes pin clamped on to one of their testicles. Of course, these were all gross generalizations. Even with the most ideal profile, it could all blow up in your face, so the luck factor was the trump card in the game. Fortunately, most of the time, a target that doesn't want to help you just gives you a condescending smile or glare and walks away.

And so it was that on a magnificent Spring day in May, Larry Dessyn and I found ourselves in Verona on a quest for adult beverages. I've been racking my brain trying to remember exactly which establishment it was

that Larry and I chose, but for the life of me it's just not coming back. I'm thinking it was The Wagon Wheel; I kind of recall them having an on/off alcohol license. But I just don't remember anymore.

As things turned out, Larry and I ended up lottery winners that day because the first person we approached agreed to our request. I believe it noteworthy to mention that I was about 16 years old and, at that time, two or

three beers had me half looped. But Larry was sure that he'd want more than that so we opted to buy two six-packs. I'll tell you now, I never drank my sixth beer.

One might believe that once the acquisition of adult beverages had been consummated that the trials and tribulations of our illegal activity had passed into the night. Au contraire! Nope, as cadets, our adversities were just beginning. The big challenge now was finding a suitable place in which to consume said adult beverages. The first choice we examined was to smuggle our beer into the barracks. Now, ostensibly, this was a fairly good choice. It was a Saturday, much of the cadet corps was out and about having their own adventures, and the staff and faculty were few and far between and not likely to be poking around the barracks. While those facts worked in our favor, the truth is, getting to either my room or Larry's unnoticed was easier said than done. Even going through the back arch was no guarantee of success.

Cadets are incredibly inquisitive, particularly when the possibility of treats are concerned. Any cadet who has ever tried to enter the barracks unmolested with a container of Mom's baked goods, or even a bag full of goodies from the P.X. or the Fort, can attest to the fact that you have to run a gauntlet of spying eyes and wandering hands before reaching the relative sanctuary of your room. And if by chance your precious cargo is discovered, the only viable choice at that point is to share. Sharing was the only way to achieve operational security; OPSEC as we military types like to call it. Otherwise, word would spread and the resultant chain of people banging at your door would be relentless. Neither Larry nor I were in a particularly sharing mood. Compounding that was the fact that neither of us were of the appropriate rank to

(continued on page 42)



// **HASH**
MARKS \\
from Jim Hash, '72

Leadership book on sale at PX

Colonel Jim Benson, USMC (Ret), President of Riverside Military Academy, has authored a book on leadership titled "So, You Want to be a Leader?" The book is on sale in the AMA PX. for \$19.95.

The book contains practical information which leaders can employ immediately in their quest for success.

Colonel Benson said that his book is "less intellectual" than most and purposefully so. *"It is hopeful, inspirational and an easy to understand read for prospective leaders and managers at all levels who want to improve their ability to lead their workers, soldiers or athletes to higher levels of performance."*

Benson says that leaders whose skills are already honed *"will find there skills affirmed and further honed."* He feels that good leaders *"are intense, real good leaders are passionate, but great leaders are predators when it comes to winning in the workplace, on the gridiron or on the battlefield."*

Give me all the 'wanna be's' you can find. They are the 'gonna be's' of tomorrow."

Amazon.com has several reviews of the book available on line. All are very positive with remarks like:

"A great book for anyone striving to be a leader."

"Very inspirational and easy to read - an excellent reference book for any leader's library."

"A good book for young leaders but even more so for the seasoned leader."

"This book would be a wonderful Holiday gift which helps its readers learn from the mistakes of others."

Benson is a 1965 graduate of Bridgewater College, earned a masters at the University of Tennessee and was awarded a doctorate at George Washington University.

He fought with distinction in Vietnam and ended his military career as Chief of Staff and Assistant Division Commander of the 18,000-man Second Marine Division.

When he retired in 1995, he went back to Bridgewater as Director of Planning. In 1998, he assumed the presidency of Marion Military Institute in Marion, AL and this past June became President of Riverside Military Academy in Gainesville, GA.

Negotiations are underway with Riverside to create an AMA scholarship program similar to what Fishburne and Missouri Military Academy are doing.



PROUD GRANDPARENTS - Ben Zinkhan, '60, and Joyce were very proud to see their twin grandsons walk across the stage to receive their diplomas from MacArthur High School in Lawton, OK. But there is more to the story. Michael Langford has cerebral palsy and Joyce and Ben saw him take three giant steps with a special walker to receive his diploma, the first time they had ever seen him walk! A standing ovation! Brother Thomas also received his diploma. Pictured above, l. to r., are Sherri Langford, Joyce and Ben's daughter, Thomas, Ben, Michael, little brother Sam and Joyce.



THE SOUTH FLORIDA ALUMNI GROUP meets at Los Ranchos Restaurant in Bayside, Miami, in August. From bottom, left, clockwise, Luis Iglesias, '75, Robin Nin, '84, Ozzie Ferro, '53, Juan Santalo, '51, Jorge Rovirosa, '70, Tomas Yrastorza, '60, Robert Suero, '47, Mario Garcia, '48, Gustavo Villoldo, '48, and Al Zayas, '72.

Roberto Suero, '47 came to AMA from Havana intending to further his education in English. After three years at AMA, he returned to Cuba where he graduated from the University of Havana with a business administration degree.

In 1960 after Castro came to power, Roberto and his family left Cuba and he joined Brigada de Asalto 2506 which planned to take part in an invasion of Cuba. But his unit never landed in Cuba and he, together with AMA's Cuervo brothers, joined the U. S. Navy.

Before leaving Cuba, he married Beatril and they have two sons – Roberto is a computer science engineer with a master's degree while Guillermo is a civil engineer and runs a national firm in Miami. Roberto and Beatril will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary in April. They plan to sail from New York on Cunards's Queen Mary II to Southampton, England, then go on board another Cunard liner Queen Victoria for a Mediterranean cruise with stops at Barcelona, Monte Carlo, Rome, Aighero, Palma de Mallorca and Gibraltar.

CONTRIBUTIONS

THROUGH 5 OCTOBER 2009

THESE ALUMNI AND FRIENDS HAVE MADE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE AMA ALUMNI FOUNDATION AND/OR TO THE AMA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION SO FAR IN 2009. WE THANK EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU FOR STEPPING UP TO THE PLATE IN THESE UNCERTAIN TIMES.

GIVING LEVELS

Cadet Club Up to \$50
 White Leader \$50 to \$99
 Blue Leader \$100 to \$249
 Blue & White Champion . \$250 to \$499
 Blue Streak Sponsor . \$500 to \$999
 Benefactor \$1,000 to \$2,499
 Patron \$2,500 or more
 Special Patron \$10,000 or more

SPECIAL PATRON

Howard Rosenthal, '68

PATRONS

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 Woodward West Parks
 Gregory Pearce, '65

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 Bob Bradford, '50
 Blaine Clarke, '72
 Jim Councill, '49
 Garry Granger, '71
 Robert Hume, '63
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 Norvell West, '83
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 Donald Johnson, '67
 Bill Mayne, '59
 Jim McLelland, '60
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 John "Jay" Fox, '54
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in memory of Sam Lambert, '59
 Virginia Hallock
 Colonel Dean Hanson, '63
 Carl Hensley
 Frank Hickisch, '48
 Angus Hines, '42
 Harry Hodges, '54
 Bill Knox, '42

Robert Lappin, '46
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 Elizabeth Revette
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 Donald Tucker, '63
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 Commander Al Wattay, '53
 John White, '69
 John Wright, '63
 Susan Yates, Stuart Hall
 Dan Yellott, '51
 Tomas Yrastorza, '60

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 David Shearer, '68
 Bruce Strange, '72
 Steve Traylor, '72
 Frank Williamson, '60

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 Fort Defiance High School FCCLA
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 Kristin Knapp
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 Nicholas MacNeil
 Thom McCabe, '74
 Megan McCann
 Rene McChesney
 Jim McGavock, '46

Myron McWilliam, '77
 Jim Mitchell, '76
 Tommy Mitchell, '52
 Charles Neer
 Chuck Pine, '49
 Julian Quarles, '35
 Dr. Bill Ragland, '52
 Margaret Rainbolt
 George Reaves, '69
 Rebecca Rhodes

in memory of Robert Rhodes, '52

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 David Tinker, SMA
 George Tisdale, '69
 Dave Trimble, '60

Kathy Tucker
 Nancy Vorhees

in memory of Sam Lambert, '59

Karen Warren

Chuck Williams, Raymond James

Ben Zinkhan, '60

Barbara Zoeckler

AMA directors, trustees hear sobering financial reports

AMA Foundation trustees and Alumni Association directors heard sobering financial reports when they met in Fort Defiance the first weekend in October.

Chuck Williams from Raymond-James, where the AMA Foundation funds are invested, gave a detailed overview of the U.S. economy and the market and recapped how the AMA account has fared. Williams, an *ex officio* trustee, expects things to improve slowly but reported that the principal on the AMA investment had to be invaded in September to cover that month's expenses. The trustees and directors also heard a report from **Treasurer Bud Oakey, '70**, that it is unlikely that AMA will be able to get any more grant money from the State of Virginia *"in the foreseeable future."*

Those reports engendered the strong feeling that AMA's alumni and friends need to step up their support until things return to whatever the new "normal" will be.

The boards approved a revival of the President's Council (see page 12) where alumni and friends are being asked to contribute at least \$1,000 a year for the next five years.

All were elated when **Howard Rosenthal, '68**, presented a check to the Foundation for \$10,000, a very generous amount which nonetheless covers expenses for just one month (picture on page 11).

Foundation Chairman Frank Williamson, '60, said that despite the somber reports, *"I believe that we know what we must do. The economy will turn and grants will become available once more. In the meantime, it is up to every friend of AMA to help see that our ship successfully navigates through these rocky shallows. We have worked too hard and expended too much to fail now."*

What you can do to help? Follow the leaders!

We have hit a financial pot hole but as pot holes slow you down on the road, one doesn't end your trip. You just have to get around it and press on.

So it is with our temporary cash short fall. When our expected grants did not materialize and contributions fell off as fears about the economy mounted, we had to tighten our belts and this we have done. We have cut at the museum, we have reduced the amounts of our scholarships and cut back on *The Bayonet* while instituting an annual subscription fee.

We have had some good news. **Ruth and Howard Rosenthal, '68**, came to the board and trustee meeting the first weekend in October and presented the AMA Foundation with their personal check for \$10,000! Thanks so much. This contribution will cover a full month of operation and we are sincerely grateful to the Rosenthals.

At the trustee meeting, it was decided to reinvigorate the President's Council. This is the organization dedicated to those alumni and friends who contribute at least \$1,000 a year to the Foundation.

Members of the President's Council will have specially created pavers placed in front of the AMA Museum. They will receive a special periodic newsletter detailing our financial situation. And they will be invited to a special event during each reunion.

But you say, "\$1,000 is a lot of money in this economy." Yes, but it is just \$83.33 a month – \$19.18 a week – or just \$2.73 a day. You probably spend that much on coffee.

If you can't write a check for \$1,000 now, give what you can. Make two payments of \$500 or four of \$250. Or pay it monthly. Tell us to charge your credit card a certain amount twice a year or four times a year. We can do this, folks. We need **100 AMA friends giving \$1,000 each!**

We ask that you follow the leaders. These fellows had already put in their \$1,000 when we went to press: **Blaine Clarke, '72, Garry Granger, '71, Al Zayas, '72, Jorge Roviroso, '70, Frank Williamson, '60, Bob Bradford, '50, Luke Snyder, '60, Bud Oakey, '70, and Norvell West, '83.**

*Here is an added attraction that your \$1,000 just might buy. AMA Alumni President Roviroso and former Alumni President Granger have agreed to have their heads shaved at Reunion 2010 if by then 100 AMA alumni and friends have each put up \$1,000. **Gordon Metz, '68**, even has the old AMA barber chair which he will bring to Fort Defiance for the occasion!*

What we would like to see is many of you pledging to give \$1,000 for each of the next five years. That will entitle you to membership in the Chairman's Roundtable whose members will receive a special pin. They too will receive a special newsletter and be invited to a "Members Only" event at each reunion. Until things return to normal when grants are once more available for our museum, the AMA family needs to step up. We lost our school in 1984. We don't want to lose what we have now.

Hash Marks from page 38

have the privilege of a window shade on our door and that was a problem. It's one thing to be seen gobbling down Mom's home made cookies, it's quite another to be seen sucking down suds.

With the barracks option dismissed, we entertained the idea of a pilgrimage to Bald Rock. But since that venue was off limits to cadets (never mind drinking beer there) and was further complicated by the fact that we were in uniform, it just didn't seem like a good idea.

Off to the city park

After much brainstorming, I came up with the idea of going to the city park in Staunton; surely there were enough secluded spots with which we could steal away and enjoy the fruits of our efforts. Additionally, we could take a cab and arrive there with our beer still cold. I don't remember much about the park aside from the fact that it was big and had a lot of facilities available for patrons. It may not even be there anymore for all I know. It might have been replaced by a shopping mall or maybe a welcome center for illegal immigrants, who knows. King's Daughters' Hospital went away and I would never have figured that to happen. Hell, Augusta and Staunton Military Academy went away; whoda ever think it.¹

Larry and I espied and took homestead of a bit of high ground overlooking a large area suitable for folks to recreate with the kids and family dog, a perfect place for tossing a Frisbee or flying a kite. There were picnic tables strategically placed and one such table was beneath a large tree. It was there that Larry and I chose to enjoy our forbidden treasure.

When we first arrived, we were the only souls in sight, but shortly after opening our first cans, a couple arrived at the opposite end of the field. They were far enough away that it was most unlikely that the beverages we were consuming could be identified, but with other picnic tables in close proximity, a mutual concern began to grow.

I don't recall whose brilliant idea it was, and obviously little time was spent in rumination, but the decision to drink our beer high amongst the branches of the tree beside our table was made. Here, we believed, we could drink our frothy taboo beverages in the comfort of knowing we were safely secluded behind the tree's foliage. It would be a salute to the military training we had in the use of natural cover and concealment.

There were actually three flaws to the plan that neither of us had the good sense to recognize any of them. As it turned out, all three flaws came to fruition.

Hauling beer up the tree

Climbing a tree without trashing your uniform provides challenge enough without adding the additional task of hauling up two six-packs of beer. This was accomplished by handing off the brown paper bag back and forth as we ascended the tree. It was a warm day, and the condensation that formed on the cans of beer was rapidly reducing the bag to not much more than soggy tatters. So by the time we had reached our lofty perches it had no functionality remaining and was thus discarded. Finding an appropriate place and balancing the now five-packs was a bit of an effort but we managed. When we first began our climb, the two empty cans were put in the bag also. Since the bag no longer existed, we upended the two empties and shoved the throat of the cans onto small twigs growing out of nearby branches.

Finally settled in, Larry and I spent the next hour or so downing brewskis and chatting aimlessly. So good was our concealment that we could hardly see out into the field from where we sat. We

had a fairly good view of the ground below us which included most of the picnic table, but the field was almost totally obscured from our sight.

Just after opening my fourth beer, flaw number one in our plan came to pass. At first we just heard voices and within a few seconds a family consisting of mom and dad and two kids parked themselves and their picnic basket on the table below us. At first, Larry and I just sat there looking at each other in wonderment, both sporting you-know-what eating grins on our faces.

We were easily 25 or more feet off the ground and unless someone made a point to look directly up into the tree, we weren't likely to be noticed. Not knowing what else to do, we continued drinking. I'm sure the scene below us could have been a Norman Rockwell drawing or an Ansel Adams photograph, but for Larry and I, it was all just hysterical, and we were doing all we could to hold back the laughter and remain as quiet as we could. It wasn't easy. From the looks of things, the family appeared to be digging in for the duration. That was not good news for us.

An urgent need

About half way through that fourth beer, flaw number two reared it's ugly head. As any consumer of malt beverages will tell you, beer is a serious diuretic. The last time I had relieved myself had been back at school about four hours earlier. With most of four beers in me, my bladder was having fits. I whispered to Larry about my condition and he confessed to be suffering the same problem. As the minutes passed, things got worse and I knew that at some point my bladder was going to get some relief one way or another. Something had to be done.

Dad and the two kids were out in the meadow beyond our sight, but mom was at the table fussing about the food, organizing this and organizing that while shooing flies here and there. The table stood about nine or ten feet away from the trunk of the tree. I decided that if I were to position myself on the opposite side of the tree from where she was, and aimed the stream at the proper angle and distance from the trunk, I could pee in the stealth mode, and mom would be none the wiser.

Well, there I was, precariously suspended by one arm and one leg from the nearest available branches while my other arm was occupied in targeting. It was quite a sight; Larry was almost apoplectic. His face was nearly crimson from holding back the laughter. I, on the other hand, could do nothing more than relish the blissful relief. With the success of the mission, Larry decided to repeat it.

With both of us now rejuvenated, we cracked open beer number five. These were the first cans we had opened since the family's arrival. Popping the tab on a can of beer has a fairly distinct sound and I was sure that it would be heard, so I bent the ring up slightly and placed the bottom of the front of my blouse across the top of the can and then through the blouse I popped the top. It muffled the sound quite a bit; Larry did the same and so our drinking continued.

A family dinner like no other

While we were enjoying our fifth beer, the family was enjoying their meal. I was also beginning to ponder how we were going to extract ourselves from the position we were in. It didn't seem as though they were going to leave anytime soon and aside from being hungry, there was a knot on the branch I sat on that had been jabbing into my skinny butt far longer than was endurable. Larry was looking a little antsy, too.

After emptying my fifth can, like those that preceded it, I attached it to a twig and looking around at the ten or so beer cans that now decorated the tree like some sort of odd Christmas ornaments, it occurred to me how much beer I had downed and how intoxicated I was at that moment. I was also starting to feel the

(concluded on page 44)

¹ Gypsy Park is still there!



A FISHBURNE FETE - On an early October evening after the AMA Foundation Trustees had met in Fort Defiance, the trustees and Directors of the Alumni Association were invited to a cookout in Waynesboro at the home of Colonel Roy Zinser, USA retired, President of Fishburne Military School. The event was part of an effort to bring FMS and AMA alumni closer. Below, right, Colonel Zinser and Doug Rhodes take a tour of the AMA Museum given by Bud Oakey, '70, and Tina Shafer.

The closeness of the two old rivals is clear to see. After nearly a century of athletic competition and all the pride induced contentions created at two military schools in such close proximity, former FMS and AMA cadets are now finding new ways to be cooperative.

It started with an annual alumni tennis match several years ago and today there are special Fishburne scholarships for the legacies of AMA alumni. While FMS still has a school, many of the alumni concerns are the same for both. That ultra-small fraternity of men who know/knew what it is/was like to live in a barracks during their high school years. A Band of Brothers!



Active class agents are needed to make reunions successful

The success of our annual reunions is in direct proportion to the enthusiasm that the Class Agents can create in their classmates. This year, the Class of 1949 had a sterling response to their 60th anniversary celebration brought about by the dedicated work of Class Agents **Clyde Ramsey** and **Frank Spencer**.

The Honor Classes at the 2010 reunion will be 1950, 1955, 1960, 1965, 1970, 1975 and 1980. We'd be glad to give high honors to members of the Classes of 1940 and 1945 from the World War II era.

And we always look forward to seeing **Julian Quarles**, '35, who will celebrate his 75th anniversary next year!

Listed herewith are the AMA classes from 1935 through the last class, 1984. If your name is listed and you no longer wish to be a class agent, please let us know right away so we can recruit someone else. If your class is not represented, we would be grateful if you would be willing to be the agent for your class. You will get lots of help in contacting your classmates which in turn will assure a good turnout at Reunion 2020.

Get in touch at: AMABayonet@aol.com

1935	JULIAN QUARLES	1953	LEW MUNDIN	1969	NICKY SYROPOULOS
1936	TOM ROLLER	1954	KEN HOKE	1970	HARRY CAMPBELL
1937	NO AGENT	1955	T. C. LEA	1971	GARRY GRANGER
1938	NO AGENT *	1956	SERGIO FERNANDEZ	1972	LEWIE KENNETT
1939	NO AGENT	1957	GOODLOE SAUNDERS	1973	JIM ATCHISON and JOE GARRY
1940	NO AGENT **	1958	DUKE FANCHER	1974	NO AGENT
1941	NO AGENT	1959	DAVE CONRAD and LLOYD EASTLACK	1975	BRETT THOMPSON
1942	EARL CABANISS	1960	LUKE SNYDER and FRANK WILLIAMSON	1976	JIM MITCHELL
1943	NO AGENT ***	1961	JACK STEELE	1977	SHAWN OGIMACHI
1944	BILL McOWEN	1962	BOB GEBEAUX and ROB RIDGEWAY	1978	HENRY HARRIS
1945	NO AGENT	1963	MIKE BASTO	1979	PAUL KARCH
1946	NO AGENT	1964	DAVE HOLSINGER and PHIL MATSON	1980	KEITH TRAYLOR
1947	MIKE WELCH	1965	BOB WALTON	1981	TODD LIVICK
1948	ERNEST CLICK	1966	NO AGENT	1982	NO AGENT
1949	FRANK SPENCER and CLYDE RAMSEY	1967	MAC McINNIS	1983	WAYNE KRESON
1950	TOMMY CLEMENTS	1968	GORDON METZ	1984	CHRIS MEEK
1951	HAP STARR				
1952	SHAD WHITE and ROGER MESSICK				

* Captain Larry Kurtz, USN, passed away

** George Haw passed away

*** Chris Harrison passed away

Hash Marks *from page 42*

early warning messages from my bladder and knew that I was in no condition to perform any more urinary gymnastics. That's when the realization of flaw number three dawned on me: tree climbing while inebriated is not a good plan. Now, looking down at the ground, our descent wasn't something I was eager to undertake either. The climb up was difficult enough and we were sober; getting down I knew was going to be a problem.

We probably sat in the tree for another fifteen to twenty minutes before deciding that we just had to come down. I took my last beer and stuffed it in my blouse pocket. I don't remember if Larry drank his last beer, abandoned it in the tree or took it with him.

I was positioned on a branch about a foot or so below Larry, so I went first. For those of you who can remember our dress shoes, you might also recall how slick the leather soles were; you know, running down the stoops and then sliding the last ten feet before your door; they were just as slick on tree branches. I was almost half way down when I paused in disbelief that the folks below me still hadn't detected our presence. I was trying to stretch my leg out to the next branch when a small limb I was grasping with one of my hands snapped. That sound alerted mom and dad who gazed up in total shock. It truly was a Kodak moment. I thought the woman was going to vapor lock. I began to speed up my descent in an effort to reduce the duration of the awkward moment. That was another mistake.

One of my feet slipped just as I was reaching for another branch, and there I went, ass over tea cups, tumbling to the

ground. I only fell about seven or eight feet and landed on my back. At first I thought the air had been knocked out of me (that's a terrible feeling) but then I began to breathe okay and nothing felt broken. Larry was drunk enough to start laughing at my artful display of grace and balance. The couple it seemed didn't notice Larry when they noticed me and so were further shocked to see yet another cadet coming down out of the tree. By the time Larry was back safely on the ground, I had picked myself up and was looking at the couple not sure what to say. Finally, for lack of anything else, I said "Sorry, we didn't mean to startle you folks, but we were here first."

With that, we sort of just trotted off into the sunset. The man and woman never said a word during the whole event. By the time we got back to school the alcoholic high we had been enjoying was beginning to be replaced with dry mouth and headaches. I gave my last beer to somebody and collapsed on my bunk, sleeping soundly until Sunday morning. ☆ ☆ ☆

Look for HASH MARKS in future issues of *The Bayonet*. You can e-mail Jim at: jchash@pstel.net

As we were going to press, we learned of the death of Bill Parnell, '51, on 21 October in Moss Point, Mississippi. Bill had a three boat shrimp fleet until recent years. A complete writeup will be in the Winter 2010 issue.

Don Quigg, '55, for flat federal sales tax Runaway debt, voter apathy and a major tax policy change are scrutinized in his new book

Don Quigg, '55, is a retired electrical engineer and business owner who is now homebound with lots of time on his hands and access to a computer. So, he has taken many new and creative ideas from afternoon beer and problem solving sessions with "like minded cronies" and put them into a new book *Runaway Debt, Flat Tax & Voter Apathy*.

One of Quigg's major points is the lack of easily accessible data on all the measures voted on by local, state and federal lawmakers. *"After all the transparency hype, there is no excuse for hiding the facts,"* he says. *"The information is available but it is deliberately fragmented mumbo jumbo while an inexpensive application of modern technology could fix this."*

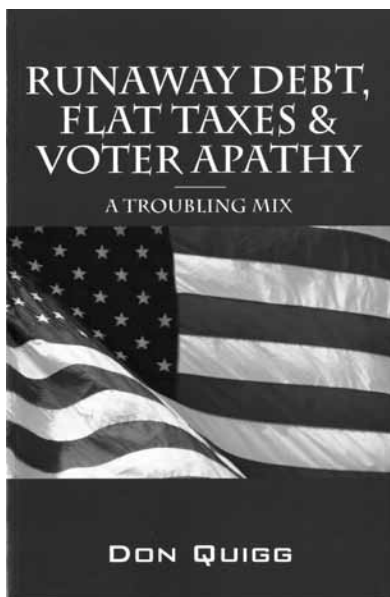
Quigg says there is no defensible reason why the news media *"have all failed to gather and report the maze of pending legislation to the public... A Federal Accounting Standard would have exposed the real estate and banking implosions long before they erupted."*

Quigg suggests affordable, logical solutions to curb voter apathy and "Congressional aggrandizement." One very obvious target of the book is Congress which always hesitates to give up its power. *"Why have our federal lawmakers consistently rejected a flat tax?"* he asks. *"Because they could no longer manipulate tax policy, because they could no longer toy with the U. S. Tax Code... I propose a world high Federal Flat Sales Tax with a deep graduated Tax Discount Card issued to every legal American resident and visitor."*

Quigg says that such a policy *"would give everyone a break, especially new business development. You would pay this kind of tax only after you had accumulated real wealth and the IRS would actually collect more than they do now."*

Quigg compares the total IRS 2007 tax receipts against an imaginary 30 percent flat tax containing the Graduated Federal Sales Tax Discount Card and found the individual and business taxes would be cut 50 per cent. *"I want to lower taxes and remove the lawmaker's ability to give away tax receipts that assure their reelection. I completely avoided the present U. S. Tax Code."* Quigg says that there is no financial crisis but rather a lack of integrity as Congress forfeited 3.5 trillion dollars in legitimate tax receipts in exchange for \$500 million in political contributions to assure their reelection.

While advocating policies much akin to what a Conservative Republican might embrace, he breaks ranks by supporting a single payer national health insurance program and a flat tax with absolutely no exemptions.



Runaway Debt, Flat Tax & Voter Apathy is quite upbeat in spite of the serious issues it faces. The author would see government reign in, not further empower the Federal Reserve to tweak the banking system and commerce transactions. Quigg says that so much of what is needed is not even being proposed, discussed or debated in Washington or the State capitals.

An American Library Association review of Quigg's book is scheduled to be posted on Booklist this fall. The book is now available in paperback and e-book, and in hard cover and audio shortly. You can order individual copies from Amazon.com. A copy of the book is on display at the AMA Museum.

At AMA, Don Quigg was 2nd lieutenant in the Band, played in the School Orchestra and was on the Decorating Committee.



A HIGH HONOR - Bud Oakey, '70, is a member of the Richmond Concert Band and was asked to perform Echo Taps at the POW/MIA Remembrance Day at the Virginia War Memorial. Representing Buglers Across America, he also sported AMA crossed rifles brass on his cover and an AMA Alumni Association patch on his sleeve. To be asked to perform was a very high honor indeed and we are justly proud of Bud.



AMA helps get Stuart Hall flag pole to honor Iraq KIA

A golf package donated to AMA for the 2009 Silent Auction has given AMA a place of honor near the first flag pole to be erected at Stuart Hall in the school's 165 year history.

The pole was erected in memory of Stuart Hall alumnus Jason Redifer, 19, who lost his life in Iraq on his last mission before he was scheduled to come home to the States. The young Marine Lance Corporal from the Stuart Hall class of 2003 had called his mother in Stuarts Draft, told her he would be coming home in nine days and that he was about to go out on his last mission. Two hours later, Jason Redifer was dead.

Susan Yates, SH '72, was in charge of raising funds for the flag pole, benches and a plaque honoring Redifer. She donated a golf package to our Silent Auction with the understanding that half of the proceeds would come back to her for the flag pole. The golf package was sold for \$500 with \$250 being rebated to Stuart Hall. A plaque near the flag pole will thank AMA alumni for their support.

Buckmaster from page 32

the M-1, a rifle in plenteous supply after World War II. Those cosmoline parties were a real mess. The fumes from the solvent were fierce and we had to keep the Armory windows open even though we got little circulation since the Armory was under ground. I helped teach cadets how to disassemble and assemble the M-1 and how to open and close the breech without getting a thumb caught in the action.

The Sunday white glove inspections created lots of tension. You had to work very hard to get things PERFECT: rifle, shoe shine, brass polished, tight bed spread, washed and waxed floor, clean windows and mirrors. Everything had to be dusted, even the tops of the doors. If the inspector found just one small spot that you had missed, he would write you up.



HAPPY MOMENT - Under a great shade tree at Reunion 2009, a happy moment is shared by Lee Hahn, Jim Mitchell, '76, and Linda Roller Livick. Lee is the daughter of Linda and Colonel Mal Livick.

Small museum experience

Crysta Stephenson new museum administrator

When Tina Shafer let us know that she would be moving to Florida where her husband has rejoined his old employer, we wondered what we could do to find such an equally quick study and such an enthusiastic person to administer our museum.

Enter **Crysta Stephenson**, 38, from neighboring Highland County. There she was Executive Director of the Highland Historical Society and has experience with a small museum such as ours. She is a journalism major having graduated from Mary Baldwin after which she worked for the *Waynesboro News Virginian* for six years where she won the Virginia Press Association Award for a special section on D-Day veterans.

She joined the Highland Historical Society in 2004 and planned and executed the McDowell Battlefield Heritage Days with its Civil War reenactment. She managed the museum from its opening in 2005 until she joined us in September. She will be at the museum from 10 AM until 4 PM Monday through Friday.

She has two daughters, both attending Highland High School. Crysta and her daughters live with Crysta's mother on Stephenson ancestral land. **General Roller's** wife, Janet Stephenson Roller, was Crysta's great-great aunt.

As a child, Crysta learned to ride a pony named Big Boy. "*One of my greatest heartbreaks was when Big Boy died,*" she says. It wasn't until many years later that she learned the pony had been named for General Roller.

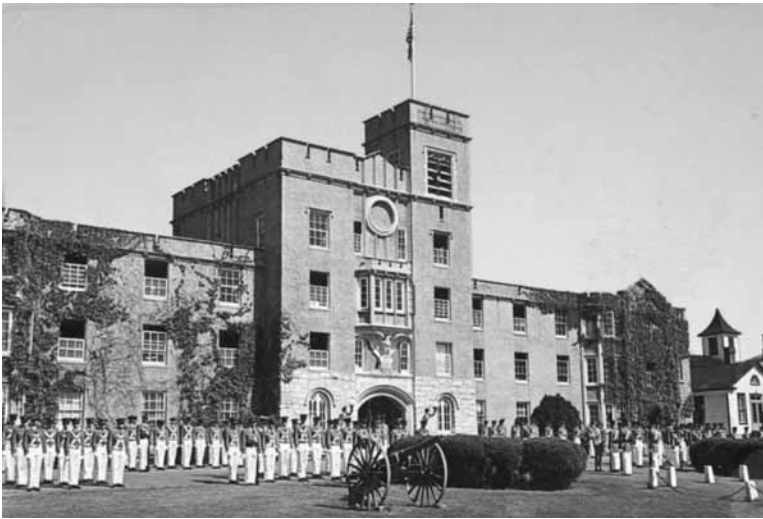
So, Crysta is already a part of the AMA family! We welcome her to our museum.

When I retired, we moved to Sierra Vista, Arizona where **Colonel Sam Conley** lives. Sam and I worked many years with the U.S. Army Communications Command at Fort Huachuca, Arizona. Sam was a full colonel and our Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development. I was a GS-15 Division Chief in the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations.

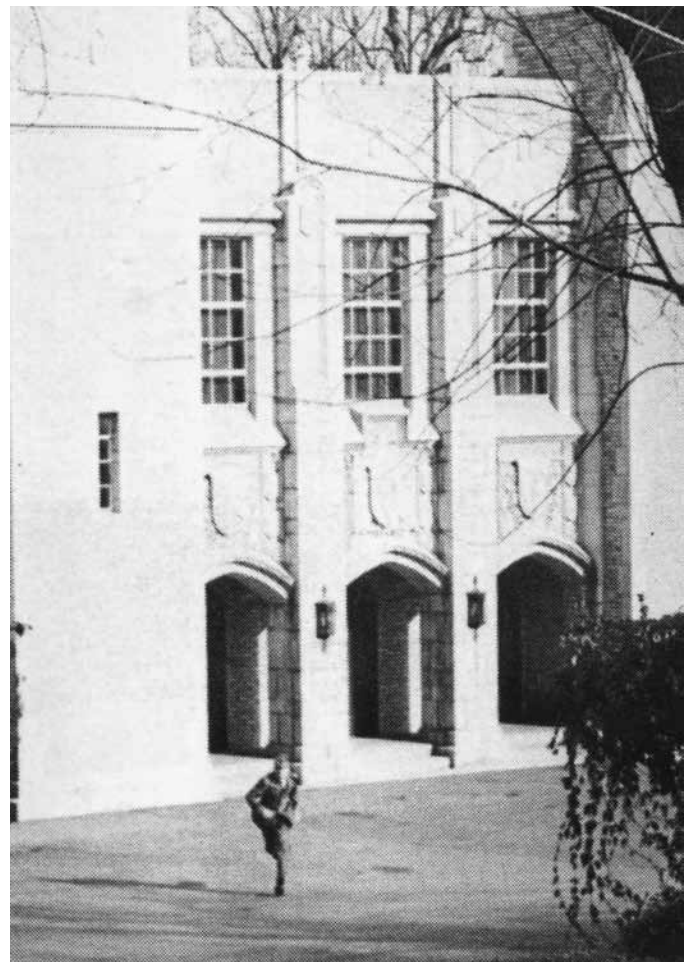
This is our new logo



More in the next issue!



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Augusta Military Academy Alumni Foundation newsletter

Fall 2009

This may be your last Bayonet!

This may be the last *Bayonet* you will receive in the mail unless you contribute \$25 to cover the cost of printing and mailing for a year!

As we have reported to you in the last three issues, as the world economy has faltered, the contributions and grants that we depend on to fund our programs have dried up. We have cut where we can at the Museum, with *The Bayonet*, with our scholarship programs and every other place where there can be cost reductions without completely undermining our mission.

We have hoped in vain that we would not have to institute a subscription fee but we are now at a point where it is no longer possible to publish and mail *The Bayonet* without income to offset its costs.

As you may know, you can now view issues of *The Bayonet* on-line beginning with the Summer 2006 issue. Go to our web site at: www.AMAAlumni.org, click on *Bayonet*, then select the issue you want to see. It will come up a page at a time and you can print the pages if you like. Some of you may decide to take this option.

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